The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSDEALERS will please take notice that papers sent to them by mail from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed for them or not, are to be paid for.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

☞ REMITTANCES must be made in Money Orders, Bank Checks or Drafts, if possible. When neither of these can be procured, send the Money in a Registered Letter. The present Registration system is virtually an Absolute Protection Against Losses by mail, and all Postmasters are authorized to register letters whenever requested to do so.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XII.—NO. 23. WEEKLY EDITION. APRIL 17, 1875.

The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

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WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9, 1875.

Coinage of Silver.

The Secretary of the Treasury, under the Finance bill, passed at the last session, providing that silver shall be substituted for fractional currency as soon as practicable, has now fully commenced the coinage of silver at the Mint at Philadelphia, with a view to the carrying out of the law. The Secretary, however, does not purpose to repeat the abortive attempt of his immediate predecessor. He fully appreciates the fact that, with the present volume of fractional currency in circulation, the silver would be bought up as fast as issued and melted down by the silversmiths. In order to avoid this embarrassment, the Secretary has commenced the withdrawal of the fractional currency. Last month one hundred thousand dollars' worth of this currency was canceled.

Scrub Race for Office.

Under the impression that the abrogation of the Civil Service rules opens an unobstructed road to office, hundreds of incompetent persons are constantly besieging the departments for places. The Executive Departments, however, have not abandoned all examinations, but have returned to the system in vogue before the introduction of the Civil Service rules.

A Proposed Rival Route to the West.

The House Committee on Railways and Canals, on the last day of the late session of Congress, reported favorably a bill to aid in the construction of the Washington and Ohio Railroad. Although no action was taken by Congress, the subject is interesting in connection with the various enterprises now under consideration for increasing the facilities of transportation between the Atlantic seaboard and the navigable waters of the Mississippi.

The company asked for a guarantee of its bonds to the amount of $30,000 per mile, to enable it to complete the road to the Ohio river and, in addition, that the Government against loss by reason of the liability thus incurred, proposed to give a deed of trust or mortgage upon the entire road, and to apply its mail pay, whenever necessary, to the payment of the interest as it accrued, until the bonds should be fully paid, and to enter into such further guarantees as might be reasonable and proper. This company, as now organized, is a railroad from Washington city and Alexandria, by way of Winchester, Va., to the Ohio river, at Point Pleasant, on some point north thereof, passing through the iron ore beds on the Shenandoah river, sixty-five miles west of Washington, and those of Hampshire and other counties of West Virginia, and the great coal fields of the latter State; by their charter the terminus at the said river may be at any point between the Little Kanawha mouth and Sandy river, though they will probably fix a point between the Great and Little Kanawhas. The road has been graded from Alexandria to Winchester, a distance of seventy-five miles of which fifty-two miles have been completed and are in use. From Winchester to the Ohio river, a careful preliminary survey has been made, sufficient to ascertain the fact that it will reach the river at Ravenswood at the distance of three hundred and twenty-five miles, with grades of 52.8 feet per mile ascending eastward, and of 79.2 feet per mile going westward, and with no curve of less than 1,000 feet radius; the completion of which not more than six miles of tunneling will be required. It is proper to say, however, that in order to avoid, without tunneling, an exceptional heavy grade at the South Branch Mountain, it will be necessary to increase the distance by about fifteen miles, making a total of three hundred and forty miles. Even this, it is claimed, will be less by seventy-seven miles than any route now in use to the seat of the General Government from the Ohio river, or from the cities of Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago. The route from Washington to St. Louis by this road will be direct by way of Cincinnati, being, with but trifling deflection, on a straight line.

The Eastern terminus of the road is near the head of ship navigation of the Potomac river, and its Western at a point where it can connect with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, and the roads which will extend to Louisville and Memphis.

In view of the unlimited quantities of coal, iron and timber along the line of this road, and of the rich agricultural resources of the country which it will drain, as well as of the anticipated large passenger travel, it was claimed by the friends of the enterprise, when they asked Government aid, that there would be no question of its proving to be a profitable undertaking to its proprietors, nor of the safety of the Government in guaranteeing the company's mortgage bonds. As a commercial and transportation between the great West and the navigable waters of the Atlantic coast, it is expected to prove of immense value to the country, more particularly to Cincinnati, as well as to the West and Southwest.

The line of this road pursues an average course parallel to and equi-distant (about fifty miles) from the Potomac and Ohio, and the Chesapeake and Ohio roads.

The following is a table of comparative distances to Cincinnati:

	Miles	B'd'g Dist'ce Ron'e	Dist'ce Miles
New York, via Erie R.R. &c.	861	706	155
New York, via N. Y. C. R.R.	881	706	175
New York, via Penn. R.R.	757	706	51
New York, via B. & O. R.R.	777	706	71
Philadelphia, via Erie R.R.	793	608	49
Philadelphia, via B. & O. R.R.	687	619	68
Baltimore, via Penna. R.R.	647	521	126
Baltimore, via B. & O. R.R.	599	521	78
Washington, via Pa. R.R.	687	483	204
Washington, via B. & O. & Metropolitan Branch	560	483	77

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 11, 1875.

The Frauds in the Postoffice Department.

There seems to be no doubt that the recent exposures of frauds in the postal contracts are but a sample of the most extensive system of swindling which has for a long time been practiced against the Government in this branch of the public service. Postmaster General Jewell appears to be determined to unearth all the frauds upon the Government in this connection, and he has undoubtedly a heavy work before him. During the past two or three winters all swindling has been aghast with envy at the royal style of living indulged in by several of the Territorial star route contractors, who spend their time here. These parties who came here as poor as church mice, give the finest dinners and drive the fastest horses in the city. The Postmaster General will do well to overhaul their contracts.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

Ministers Maynard and Orth Departing.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 12, 1875.

Horace Maynard, Minister resident to Constantinople, took leave of the President to-day, and left to-night for New York. He will sail for his post on Wednesday. Godlove S. Orth, the new Envoy to Vienna, had a long interview with the Secretary of State to-day. The threatening complications in European politics are fully appreciated at the Department, and Mr. Orth's instructions will be framed so as to cover every contingency. The Minister to-night called on the President and passed some time in conversation. He will leave here on Saturday, join his family in New York, and sail April 21st.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 10, 1875.

BILLS PASSED AT THE LATE SESSION OF CONGRESS.

The following is an official list, just completed, of acts of a general nature passed at the second session of the Forty-third Congress:

1. An act to enable the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia to proceed with its jury business.

2. An act providing for the authentication of the Revised Statutes of the United States and for preserving the originals of all laws until the completion of the work.

3. An act suspending so much of the act entitled, "An act reorganizing the several staff corps of the Army," approved June twenty-third, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, as applies to contract surgeons.

4. An act to create an additional land district in the State of Oregon, to be called the Dallas land district.

5. An act to provide for the resumption of specie payments.

6. An act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, and for other purposes.

7. An act to remove the limitation restricting the circulation of banking associations issuing notes payable in gold.

8. An act declaratory of the act entitled, "An act to amend the customs revenue laws, and to repeal moieties," approved June twenty-second, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

9. An act to constitute Patchogue, on the south side of Long Island, in the State of New York, a port of delivery.

10. An act for the payment of interest on three-sixty-five bonds of the District of Columbia.

11. An act to amend existing customs and internal revenue laws, and for other purposes.

12. An act making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defense for fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

13. An act to amend section two thousand three hundred and twenty-four of the Revised Statutes, relating to the development of the mining resources of the United States.

14. An act to facilitate the disposition of cases in the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

15. An act to correct errors and to supply omissions in the Revised Statutes of the United States.

16. An act making appropriations for the consular and diplomatic service of the Government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six and for other purposes.

17. An act to amend section five thousand two hundred and forty of the Revised Statutes of the United States, in relation to compensation of national bank examiners.

18. An act to amend an act entitled, "An act for the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes," approved June twentieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-four.

19. An act regulating fees and costs, and for other purposes.

20. An act to protect all citizens in their civil and legal rights.

21. An act to authorize the promulgation of the general regulations for the government of the army.

22. An act making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States, for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

23. An act fixing the number of paymasters in the army of the United States.

24. An act further supplemental to the various acts prescribing the mode of obtaining evidence in cases of contested elections.

25. An act in relation to the Quartermaster's Department, fixing its status, reducing its numbers, and regulating appointments and promotions therein.

26. An act to further protect the sinking fund and provide for the exigencies of the Government.

27. An act making appropriations for the service of the Postoffice Department for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, and for other purposes.

28. An act making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, and for other purposes.

29. An act making appropriations for repair, preservation, and completion of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes.

34. An act making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

35. An act restricting the refunding of custom duties and prescribing certain regulations of the Treasury Department.

36. An act to determine the jurisdiction of Circuit courts of the United States, and to regulate the removal of causes from State courts, and for other purposes.

37. An act relating to the punishment of the crime of manslaughter.

38. An act to enable the people of Colorado to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of the said State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States.

39. An act to establish the boundary line between the State of Arkansas and the Indian country.

40. An act supplementary to the acts in relation to immigration.

41. An act to reduce and fix the Adjutant General's Department of the army.

42. An act authorizing the coinage of a twenty-cent piece of silver at the mints of the United States.

43. An act to punish certain larcenies, and the receivers of stolen goods.

44. An act to prevent certain persons from the terms of sentence of United States prisoners.

45. An act to change the name of the town of Hoboken to Hoboken City.

46. An act authorizing the appointment of gaugers for the customs service at the port of Philadelphia.

47. An act to transfer the county of Perry, in the State of Tennessee, from the Western to the Middle Judicial district of the United States in said State.

48. An act to provide for deducting any debt due the United States from any judgment recovered against the United States by such debtor.

49. An act to make East Pascagoula, in the State of Mississippi, a port of delivery in the district of Pearl river.

50. An act to provide ornamental and other trees on Government reservations and on lands purchased by the United States, and for other purposes.

51. An act granting to railroads the right of way through the public lands of the United States.

52. An act to amend sections one thousand six hundred and seventy-six, one thousand six hundred and seventy-six, one thousand six hundred and eighty-one, and one thousand six hundred and eighty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

53. An act to amend section numbered three thousand three hundred and forty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States in relation to affixing stamps on brewers' casks.

54. An act to amend section fourteen hundred and twenty-two of the Revised Statutes of the United States relating to the better government of the navy.

55. An act to promote economy and efficiency in the civil service.

56. An act to abolish the consulate at Amoor river and establish a consulate at Vladivostock, Russia, and for other purposes.

57. An act to establish certain post roads.

In addition to these there were passed 77 acts not of a general nature, and 101 private acts.

PUNISHING THE POSTAL SWINDLERS.

Warrants have been issued for the arrest of James Van Vleck, late clerk in the Sixth Auditor's office, and F. L. Channel, clerk in the Contract office, implicated in the postal frauds recently exposed. Van Vleck was yesterday removed by order of the Secretary of the Treasury. The order for Channel's removal has not yet been issued by the Postoffice Department. Colt and Floyd, who confessed their participation in the frauds, are held as witnesses against the persons who persisted in denying their guilt. The warrant for the arrest of Van Vleck and Channel are based on the affidavits of special agent Woodward, of contractors, who spend their time here. These parties who came here as poor as church mice, give the finest dinners and drive the fastest horses in the city. The Postmaster General will do well to overhaul their contracts.

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Accident to Judge J. M. Coffinberry and Wife.

CLEVELAND, April 8.—Hon. J. M. Coffinberry and lady, who had just arrived from Mount Vernon, where they had attended the wedding of their daughter, were thrown from their buggy at the depot to their home, this evening, when at the Lighthouse street crossing, the horses were frightened by the moving cars and became unmanageable. The driver being unable to get the horses under control, the buggy struck. Judge and Mrs. Coffinberry attempted to get out, but were struck by the train of cars before, which passed over them, falling below the knee, crushing it so that amputation was necessary. Mrs. Coffinberry received severe internal injuries, besides having her shoulder dislocated, and suffered severe contusions about the face. The extent of the injuries may prove fatal. The sufferers were immediately removed to their homes. Judge Coffinberry is an old and esteemed citizen.

UTAH.

Another Polygamy Decision—Extension of the Utah Northern Railroad.

SALT LAKE, April 9.—In the polygamy case now on trial at Beaver, Utah, Judge Boreman charges that polygamy contracted prior to 1852 is punishable now; that bigamy is a continuous crime, and that the statute of limitation does not apply. This is directly opposite to the charge of Judge Emerson, of this district.

The Utah Northern Railroad Company have determined to extend their road immediately thirty miles, adopting the route via Soda Springs.

FIRE RECORD.

Incendiarism at Cadiz—Vigilance Committee Organized.

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STEUBENVILLE, O., April 12, 1875.

There is considerable excitement in the vicinity of Cadiz, Ohio, in consequence of the frequent attempts to burn houses and barns. Within the past week several houses and barns have been destroyed. About ten o'clock Saturday night, a valuable barn, owned by Henry Bowles, was set on fire, but the flames were discovered and extinguished before serious damage was done. A large meeting was immediately held at the court house, and a vigilance committee organized, and it is probable the guilty parties will be lynched should they be discovered. Three colored men have been arrested on suspicion.

Explosion, Fire and Death in San Francisco—Four Bodies Recovered—Loss $500,000.

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Millerstown, Pa.—Loss $100,000.

TITUSVILLE, April 11.—A fire at Millerstown, Pennsylvania, at half-past three this afternoon, broke out in the confectionary store and faro bank of a man named Bluestene and in two hours destroyed forty buildings. It is impossible yet to approximate the losses, but they will not be less than $100,000. The most important losses were McKinney Bros. and Caley's hardware, German National bank, S. McBride's drug store, A. Falamo's paint store, and the Hogan Opera House. The other buildings were principally saloons and small tenement buildings. There is only a little insurance.

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New York City—$320,000.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Germany.

THE CATHOLIC QUESTION.

BERLIN, April 11.—The Roman Catholic bishops, soon after their conference at Fulda, addressed a petition to Emperor William in person, remonstrating against the withdrawal of the State grants, to the maintenance of which they declared that the honor of Prussia was pledged. They also protested against being required to obey unconditionally the State laws. The Ministers, authorized by the Emperor, have replied expressing regret that the bishops should object to obey laws which are always obeyed in other countries, and adding that the bishops would have preserved the Fatherland from peace-disturbing confusion, if they had remained faithful to their own convictions, and to the warnings which they proclaimed before the Vatican council.

REASSURING VIEW OF THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

BERLIN, April 11.—The *North German Gazette*, a semi-official journal, says: "The article of the Berlin *Post* contains much truth in one respect, but is combined with such anxious views that we must contradict it. Our international relations are by no means as unfavorable as represented. While the reorganization of the French army is disquieting, it does not aim at a solid establishment of French forces, but is undertaken for obvious purposes. The *Post* overrates the influence of the Royal party and the Jesuits in Italy and Austria. Their power is happily insufficient to prejudice the good understanding between the sovereigns or nations concerned." The *Gazette* thinks that the same may be said in regard to France.

BILL ON ECCLESIASTICAL RELATIONS.

BERLIN, April 11.—A bill has been introduced in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet to abrogate the clauses of the Constitution which grant independent administration of ecclesiastical affairs and unimpeded intercourse of religious associations with their superiors. The bill restricts the freedom of clerical appointments, and makes their confirmation indispensable to their legality.

Spain.

PRISONERS SHOT BY THE CARLISTS.

PARIS, April 11.—It is reported from Estella that the Carlists shot eight Alfonsists prisoners on the 9th inst. in reprisal for Carlists assassinated near Tafalla.

England.

PAUL BOYNTON'S FEAT.

LONDON, April 10.—Paul Boynton, who started from Dover soon after four this morning to go to France in his life-saving apparatus, arrived in France at seven o'clock this evening. He was in excellent health and spirits. A great crowd was present to receive him, and gave him an enthusiastic welcome.

LONDON, April 11.—Paul Boynton did not make the entire distance to Boulogne by swimming. He was taken on board the government steamer that had left Dover yesterday afternoon against his own wish, within eight miles of the coast. The weather had become boisterous, night was closing in, and Boynton declined the responsibility of guiding him after dark. Boynton has determined to repeat his attempt to swim across the channel.

A *Herald* correspondent says that Boynton failed five miles from France. He was not tired, but darkness stopped him. He was fifteen hours out.

The Lord Lord Mayor telegraphed their congratulations. The reporters publish a joint declaration that Boynton's desistence was due solely to remonstrance because of the increasing darkness and roughness of the channel. He fully proved his power to succeed under ordinary circumstances. The calmness of the sea was able to paddle fully six hours longer. He was not visibly disturbed.

France.

PEACEFUL EXPRESSIONS FROM A SEMI-OFFICIAL SOURCE.

PARIS, April 11.—The *Moniteur* (semi-official) declares that France is anxious for peace as a paramount necessity. She is not conspiring against any one. The French press generally concur in this opinion.

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THE MINERS.

Rough Treatment of Special Police—Volunteers from Philadelphia—Determination of the Governor to Enforce Peace and Order—Stockton Fire Gaining Headway—Probability of a Universal Strike.

MAUCH CHUNK, PA., April 8.—Twenty-three special policemen went on the Lehigh Valley Railroad train last evening as far as Packerton, where they were ordered off and obeyed. There are a few still in town and the remainder are now doubtless tramping toward Philadelphia.

HARRISBURG, April 8.—General Osborne, who is at Hazleton, reports the arrival of troops, including a battery of artillery. Stores and ammunition have been forwarded. Hon. Mr. Pinchee, of Hazleton, having telegraphed to Governor Hartranft that there is not one word of truth in the reported perilous situation, no incendiaries, persons, violence or demonstrations, the Governor telegraphed him to satisfy the Sheriff of these things and the troops would be withdrawn. The Governor added: It may as well be understood at once that the Sheriff will be supported with all the power of the State to protect life and property, and enforce obedience to the laws of the Commonwealth. Order must and shall be restored, cost what it may.

PHILADELPHIA, April 8.—A detachment of 150 volunteers started this morning for Hazleton, and the third detachment will leave this afternoon.

HAZLETON, April 9—1 A. M.—The fire in the mine at Stockton is gaining headway, and is likely to involve the company in very large loss. There are now about twelve hundred soldiers in Hazleton and the several mining towns near it. Trouble is reported in the Wyoming region, and the indications are that the strike will extend until it covers the entire anthracite coal fields.

SCRANTON, April 8.—The miners have resolved to ballot to-morrow on the question of a general strike in this vicinity.

HARRISBURG, April 9.—The Governor, after an interview with a committee from Hazleton, sent the following telegram:

Wm. P. Kirkendall, Sheriff of Luzerne county, Wilkesbarre, Pa.: A committee composed of Richard Williams, of Audenried, James, Bryson, Sylvester Eagle, J. C. Fischer and Charles Schuter, of Hazleton, and Joseph McGeary, of Beaver Meadow, and John Brady, of Harley, representing the citizens and miners, have to-day visited me and represented that the alleged disturbances in the vicinity of Hazleton are exaggerated and many of them false, and have declared that if the troops were withdrawn they would guarantee and the miners' associations whom they represent will obligate themselves to keep the peace; that, if necessary, they will pledge themselves to raise a sufficient force among to aid you in maintaining order, if disturbances occur; and they, for the citizens, miners, benevolent and other associations, will unite in a common agreement that what is known as "dead work" at the mines will not be interfered with, and parties willing to do such work at said mines are welcome. Acting on the foregoing I therefore ask that, in the interest of law and order, you will at once proceed to Hazleton and make a thorough investigation of the disturbances and report the disposition of the miners to preserve order, and if you are satisfied that such a disposition exists, that the gentlemen who to-day addressed me can control the people to keep with the miners the pledges they make for them, and that the citizens will aid you if there is any further turbulent demonstration of the part of the lawless, you will solemnly made in writing, you will so inform me, that the troops may be withdrawn.

(Signed.) JOHN F. HARTRANFT,

Governor.

Sheriff Kirkendall at once replied that he would proceed to Hazleton to-morrow, in compliance with the Governor's request. It is his opinion that this will settle the solution of the troubles in the Luzerne region. The Governor to-night directed the Adjutant General to proceed to Hazleton and the scene of trouble.

SCRANTON, April 9.—A vote by ballot was taken to-day in several mines of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, to see if they could settle the question of a strike, and resulted—1,512 for and 319 against work.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 9.—Trustworthy advices from Shamokin state that all the miners in that region, except a few at one colliery, are on a strike.

THE SITUATION AT HAZLETON.

HAZLETON, April 9.—Adjutant General Latta arrived here to-day, and had a conference with the Sheriff and citizens, under orders of the Governor, relative to the withdrawal of the military asked for by a delegation of citizens. Miners and others favoring the recall of the troops, promised the Sheriff a sufficient force to protect the workingmen. Subsequently those favoring the detention of the military, met the Adjutant General and fully discussed the gravity of the situation. The Adjutant General has not yet reported to the Governor the result of his visit. A special to the *Inquirer* from Philadelphia says he had been running one of the pump engines at Eckley, while on his way to work, was taken by two men into a by-place and severe internal injuries, besides having her shoulder dislocated, and suffered severe contusions about the face. The extent of the injuries may prove fatal. The sufferers were immediately removed to their homes. Judge Coffinberry is an old and esteemed citi zen.

UTAH.

Another Polygamy Decision—Extension of the Utah Northern Railroad.

SALT LAKE, April 9.—In the polygamy case now on trial at Beaver, Utah, Judge Boreman charges that polygamy contracted prior to 1852 is punishable now; that bigamy is a continuous crime, and that the statute of limitation does not apply. This is directly opposite to the charge of Judge Emerson, of this district.

The Utah Northern Railroad Company have determined to extend their road immediately thirty miles, adopting the route via Soda Springs.

FIRE RECORD.

Incendiarism at Cadiz—Vigilance Committee Organized.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

STEUBENVILLE, O., April 12, 1875.

There is considerable excitement in the vicinity of Cadiz, Ohio, in consequence of the frequent attempts to burn houses and barns. Within the past week several houses and barns have been destroyed. About ten o'clock Saturday night, a valuable barn, owned by Henry Bowles, was set on fire, but the flames were discovered and extinguished before serious damage was done. A large meeting was immediately held at the court house, and a vigilance committee organized, and it is probable the guilty parties will be lynched should they be discovered. Three colored men have been arrested on suspicion.

Explosion, Fire and Death in San Francisco—Four Bodies Recovered—Loss $500,000.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9.—At the present writing only four bodies have been recovered from the ruins of last night's fire: Frederick Hass, saloon keeper; Clark, foreman of the contractor for the removal of the Rincbon rock, in whose office the explosion occurred; a colored man named Brown, messenger on the wharf; a body supposed to be that of the driver of the gas company's truck. James McIntyre, lately discharged from the navy, died from his injuries last night. Several others of the injured are not expected to live. Consignees' goods in the bonded warehouse: J. C. Merrill & Co., Forbes Bros., H. B. Blanchard & Co., Cadalphia, Law & Co., Parrot & Co. The contents of the warehouse was sugar, burlaps and ales. The loss in goods is now estimated at from $500,000 to $600 000. Insured by the consignees. Other bodies are supposed to be in the ruins, which are being searched.

Millerstown, Pa.—Loss $100,000.

TITUSVILLE, April 11.—A fire at Millerstown, Pennsylvania, at half-past three this afternoon, broke out in the confectionary store and faro bank of a man named Bluestene and in two hours destroyed forty buildings. It is impossible yet to approximate the losses, but they will not be less than $100,000. The most important losses were McKinney Bros. and Caley's hardware, German National bank, S. McBride's drug store, A. Falamo's paint store, and the Hogan Opera House. The other buildings were principally saloons and small tenement buildings. There is only a little insurance.

Richwood, O.—$50,000.

A Cincinnati *Commercial* special says that a fire at Richwood, Ohio, last night, destroyed Dr. P. Wescheimer's drug store, Jordan, Thornhill & Co.'s hardware store, Morris Hill's furniture store, the Methodist church, and several small buildings. The loss is about $50,000; insurance unknown.

New York City—$320,000.

NEW YORK, April 12.—This morning a fire, originating in the cellar of a five-story stone building, Nos. 57 and 59 Worth street, spread to the lower floors of 61 and 63 Worth street and 62 Leonard street, causing a loss of $320,000 as follows: Loss on buildings $10,000; damage to stock, Geo. Trumbull & Co., dry goods, $200,000; Wendell, Hutchinson & Co., dry goods, $50,000; Park, Goodwin & Co., dry goods, $50,000; Parker, Wilder & Co., dry goods, $10,000, all covered by insurance.

Cincinnati—$30,000.

CINCINNATI, April 12.—A fire early this morning, at the John street carstable, Harrison avenue, consumed the stable, twenty-three street cars, sixteen mules and one horse. The loss is about $30,000, partially insured.

New Lexington, Ohio—$10,000.

CINCINNATI, April 12.—A fire at New Lexington, O., Saturday, destroyed a hotel owned by John Savage. Loss $10,000.

A STRANGE REUNION.

How a Prodigal Son Returned to His Father's House—The Dramatic Result of a Struggle With a Burglar—The Latter Proves to be the Son of His Captor.

[From the Detroit Post, 8th.]

At a late hour one night last week, a gentleman, well known in the business and social circles of this city, and who occupies a handsome residence on one of the fashionable thoroughfares, was awakened from a sound slumber by an unusual noise in his sleeping apartment, and, after listening intently for a moment, became conscious of the fact that some person was stealthily moving about in the room. The gas was turned off and the inside blinds of the window were closed, so that all was total darkness, but the next instat the intruder stumbled over a chair near the bed, the movement revealing his precise location. Most men, rudely awakened by the unceremonious entrance of a burglar, would have uttered an exclamation of alarm or a cry for assistance, but the master of the house was a man of unusual self-possession and determination; without uttering a word he sprang from his couch and grappled with his unknown antagonist. The struggle which ensued in the dark was brief but decisive. The burglar fought on the defensive, rather than the offensive, and made the most desperate attempts to loosen the hand which grasped his throat like an iron vice, but his antagonist, although on the shady side of fifty, was a man of great muscular power, and the fellow's efforts to escape were fruitless. Kneeling upon the prostrate form of the panting burglar, the victor in the struggle called to his wife to light the gas, a command which the lady, who was awakened by the scuffle, and who was nearly beside herself with fear, was not slow to execute.

The instant that the gas jet flooded the room with light, the gentleman released his hold upon the throat of his adversary, a pale, haggard, ill-clad young man, and the latter staggered to his feet. For a moment the two men confronted each other, and then with a wild cry, in which horror, shame and remorse were all expressed, the younger sank at the feet of the elder.

"Father!"

"Charlie."

The recognition was mutual; the exclamations rang out simultaneously. It was indeed the reunion of a sorrowing father and a prodigal son. Eight years ago the former was a resident of Wilkesbarre, Pa., and the latter, his only child, was a bright youth of twenty, who unfortunately fell in with bad companions and became proficient in all manner of youthful dissipation. Finding parental restraint irksome the boy ran away from home and shipped upon a vessel bound for Liverpool. After several months spent in London, where he lived by his wits, he shipped as a cook on a vessel bound for Africa, but was prostrated by a severe attack of fever and back to England. Upon his recovery he went to South America, where he secured a position in the employ of an extensive stock company, but in this place proved a failure. The father was sold by Palmer to a slave-owner at Aiken, S. C. When Sherman made his march to the sea, Bethal was released from bondage; being a skilled mechanic, he continued to work at his trade until a few days since, when he came here to get his two children. Palmer refused to give them up, and, sneaking them away. The father applied to United States Judge Reeves, Western District of Virginia, for a writ of *habeas corpus*, as above stated, which was granted and served upon Palmer by United States Marshal Gray. The hearing has not yet been had. Bethal has also brought a civil suit against Palmer, laying his damages at $50,000. Palmer is a man of great wealth. I have no doubt but that thousands of these poor creatures are still held in bondage throughout the South, since the "tidal wave" of last fall has swept more than eighty ex-confederate soldiers and rebel generals into Congress, they do not think that the "lost cause" is lost.

Greeley received but few votes here; although he wanted to shake hands across the "bloody chasm," he found a "stiff backer" on this side of Mason and Dixon's line. I asked a leading conservative, yesterday, why Greeley did not run better? He said, "Because he could not vote for treason," he stands indicted in our country for publishing incendiary documents through his *Tribune

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.

SENATOR GORDON says it is too early to put a Confederate soldier upon the Democratic National ticket. He might have added that it is unnecessary, also, as the Northern Democrats are more willing to do dirty work than even a Confederate would be.

THE Supreme Court of Wisconsin gives us a new idea of bribery. It has just decided that "a promise by a candidate to the voters at large to perform the duties of the office to which he aspires for less than the salary fixed by law, amounts to bribery, and all votes obtained thereby must be rejected."

THE Supreme Court of the United States has just decided that the term "capital employed" by a banker in his business, in the revenue act of 1866, does not include moneys borrowed by him from time to time, temporarily, in the ordinary course of his business, but applies only to the property or moneys of the banker set apart from other uses, permanently invested in the business.

THE following table will show the total value and duty of foreign merchandise entered into consumption in the United States from 1867 to 1874, inclusive:

Year.	Value.	Duty.
1867	$298,940,357	$180,305,750
1868	358,723,098	160,58 ,778
1869	414,256,243	176,557,584
1870	453,575,668	194,513,993
1871	518,759,518	232,446,673
1872	573,912,898	212,619,105
1873	642,136,224	184,939,041
1874	595,965,754	190,522,235

THE United States Circuit Court for the Northern district of Illinois has just rendered an important decision on the subject of the taxation of the capital stock and franchises of corporations in that State under the assessments of the State Board of Equalization, to the effect that the practice adopted by the Board is illegal. The State Supreme Court some time ago decided the action of the Board to be valid. Hundreds of cases are embraced in the decision, which will now be appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

THE Ravenna *Democrat* ought to know. It speaks thus of the late Democratic Legislature of Ohio:

> The present Legislature will stand in history, so far as its Democratic majority is concerned, as incompetent, trifling, unpatriotic, intensely, blindly partisan, reckless, unscrupulous and corrupt.

And yet, in the course of a few weeks, this Ravenna *Democrat* will be as busy as a bee in trying to elect just such another body as that which it here denounces. See if it does not.

THE conversion to Christianity of twelve Rajput Mohammedans of Ghorowaha, in the Punjaub, India, during the past year by Protestant missionaries, gave rise, for the time, to a bitter controversy as to the right of Christians to the use of the wells. The matter has now been finally settled by a decision obtained from three distinguished Mohammedan doctors of the Punjaub, to the effect that it is lawful for a Mohammedan to eat and drink with Christians, and to draw water out of the same well with them. It is expected that these decisions, which are to be printed, and circulated broadcast, will prove of great benefit to the various missions in that country, in their work of evangelical civilization.

THE appeal of the Pope to the Emperor of Austria to take sides with the Church against Germany, is an evidence of the truth of what we stated a few days since, of the current drift of events in Europe toward a religious war. The aim of the Jesuits is to find some one nation that will take a stand against Germany, and so bring on a conflict, or force Germany to yield. Austria, as we have shown, has been appealed to, ardently and urgently, but without result. The Emperor's reply is remarkable for its coldness. Austria, evidently, is not ambitious of immolation upon the religious altar. But the fact that the appeal to it has been made is a pregnant one. Belgium has already become involved, through intrigues from the same quarter; and the Jesuits will not give up until they have successively tried every European nation as they have just tried Austria.

THE Philadelphia *Commonwealth*, a straight Democratic organ, has a poor opinion of the Liberal element of its party. It says:

> Let the Democratic party here in Pennsylvania learn this lesson from the canvass in Connecticut: to succeed at an election the people demand the best men for candidates, the purest, the most consistent, old-fashioned party men, the long-tried, faithful, able Democrats, who will not go *"humming around"* for nominations, or making efforts to get positions in the party for themselves.

The election in Connecticut was a straightout contest. The old-line Democrats had Hon. Eaton," the new United States Senator, as the standard-bearer in their Democracy, and carried the election on State sovereignty issues, while the only nomination *elected was the mongrel Liberal-Republican-Democrat*, who failed to get the straight-out Democrat vote.

We hope these facts will be a warning. Let us hear no more *blather* about the *Liberal Republican element*. It has had its day of notice. The Democracy triumphs when it asserts its principles, and supports those who comprehend and maintain them.

Overhaul your histories for the 19th.

THE annual report of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics and Commerce for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, has just been published. The tables show that during that period, the value of goods and merchandise imported into the United States from foreign countries, and upon which duty was paid, amounted to $415,-748,693. The amount of duty paid to the United States on such valuation was $160,-388,905, or about thirty per cent. of the entire valuation of the goods. During the same period the value of goods and merchandise imported, and upon which, being on "the free list," no direct duty was imposed, amounted to $180,117,061. The total value of our exports for the year, reduced to a gold value, was $652,913,445, showing a balance in favor of the United States of $57,052,197. Of specie and bullion we imported $28,454,906, and exported $66,630,405, the balance against us being $38,175,499. Compared with the year 1873, the value of our exports for 1874 shows an increase of $43,906,491, and of our imports a decrease of $88,767,982.

A PRESBYTERIAN CENTENNIAL is suggested, from various quarters, in connection with the meeting of the Synod of Pittsburgh, to be held next fall. More than a hundred years have elapsed since Presbyterianism was established in Western Pennsylvania; and while one or two congregations have already celebrated their centennial, others are preparing to do so within the present year. In addition to these local celebrations, which are proper and commendable, it is urged that a general commemorative observance of the planting of the church in this region would be productive of much good. Some suggest that the one hundredth anniversary of the arrival of Dr. MCMILLAN, which will occur early in the ensuing fall, would be a fitting occasion. Others think that any centennial observance, by a Synod or Presbytery, should be postponed until 1881, which will complete the century since the organization of the Presbytery of Redstone, the first Presbytery formed west of the Alleghenies. No definite plan has been agreed upon, and the matter will probably come up for discussion at the meeting of the alumni of the Western Theological Seminary, to be held in Allegheny next week.

SOME recent scientific experiments with explosives, the results of which are summarized by the Detroit *Post*, promise to prove of great practical value in mining operations generally. These experiments show that the power of explosive compounds in rending rocks or metals, may be increased several fold by the manner in which they are exploded. For instance, a pound of ordinary gunpowder, it set on fire by a spark, or in a fuse, in the manner usually practiced in blasting, gives a rending power which may be set down as one hundred. But, put upon the top of a pound of the same powder a few drops of nitro-glycerine, and explode the latter so that its explosion will explode the former, and the rending power of the powder will be increased to 434—thus exerting a force four and a third times greater than if exploded by a spark or fuse. A pound of nitroglycerine, when fired by a spark, *gives a force of 486*; but if fired by exploding upon it a little fulminate of mercury, it yields a force of 1,013, or two and a half times greater than when fired by electricity or by a fuse. The rule seems to be that, in order to produce the greatest force, the explosion must be started by the sharper explosion of some more powerful agent. The practical bearing of these discoveries, if applied to mining operations, is plainly apparent.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.

There appears to be a hitch in the arrangements, somewhere, among the Democrats in this State. It was generally understood at Harrisburg, during the winter, that the WALLACE ring of the party had settled upon DILL, for Governor, and PLAYFORD for State Treasurer; but since the adjournment of the Legislature it is given out that DILL is *out*. Whether he has seen the handwriting on the wall, which made his knees smite together with terror, or whether he has been found lacking in availability, does not yet appear, the only thing certain being that he is out of the way. WALLACE, of course, will name the man to take his place, unless the BLACK-BUCKALEWS should be more numerous than they at present seem to be.

Ross, of Montgomery, was WALLACE'S man, last year, for Supreme Judge, and he was cheated out of that nomination by a combination of CLYMER and BUCKALEW upon WOODWARD. Although WALLACE had, when the Convention met, a clear majority of the Convention in his favor. On a test vote he secured his own election as President of the Convention; yet his opponents took the nomination out of his very fingers, and floored him in the house of his friends. This shows what can be done under favoring circumstances; and although WALLACE is, to-day, owing to his position as United States Senator, the strongest man in his party in this State, it is not impossible, as as this incident shows, to circumvent and defeat him.

Under ordinary circumstances WALLACE would, we venture to guess, prefer Ross to every one else; but it is somewhat improbable that he will venture upon a second experiment with the same candidate. A man beaten in one encounter, does not come up to the second as fresh as at the first. If he goes to grass on the first round, with his peepers bunged, his opponent is almost sure to draw the claret from him on the second. We judge, therefore, that Ross will have to step down; and that the struggle for the Democratic nomination will lie between MONAGHAN, of Chester, TRUNKEY, of Mercer, and NOYES, of Clinton.

JOHN MILLER, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, has renominated MONAGHAN; and as he is versed in all the political trickery learned in a long service in his party in Philadelphia, he will prove to be WALLACE'S rock ahead, unless WALLACE accepts MONAGHAN, which he is not likely to do.

The Liberals represented by CURTIN and MCCLURE, would like to take advantage of this change in the programme, and force the Democrats, if possible, to put CURTIN at the head of their ticket; but WALLACE is not yet blind enough to commit that act of political suicide. It is probable that BLACK and BUCKALEW would fall into such a trap, as that is about their style; but WALLACE is too wise a rat to bite at any such bait.

The occasion is one that calls for wise and prudent leadership; and it remains to be seen whether Mr. WALLACE is gifted with the requisite qualities for the place he is in. MILLER has cheek enough to relieve him of all the burdens of his position, but WALLACE cannot afford to abnegate the duties which fall upon him. He must either lead or be driven into exile; and his course, in choosing the head of the ticket for the coming campaign, will demonstrate whether he is gifted or not, with the capacity for handling his forces wisely and prudently.

The Republican nomination for Governor is conceded to General HARTRANFT, so that there is no struggle, there. The Republican candidate for State Treasurer will probably come from the West, and will be, judging from the names presented, not only a new man, but an unexceptionable one. The Republican ticket will therefore be a strong one, to begin with; and upon the whole, we are inclined to commend DILL for the clear foresight of the result which most probably led him to decline a hopeless nomination.

ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD

The report of the Board of Managers of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company to the stockholders, showing the operations of the road for the years 1873-74, will be found in another part of this paper. Owing to the sudden death of the late President, Colonel WILLIAM PHILLIPS, no report was presented for 1873, and hence the exhibit embraces a period of two years. The total earnings in 1873 were $2,-997,236 24, while those in 1874 were $2,389,472—showing a decrease for 1874 of $307,766 24. The running expenses were as follows: 1873, $1,931,912 94; 1874, $1,470,-784 73—a decrease of $461,128 21. The net earnings, therefore, were: 1873, $765,325 30; 1874, $918,787 27—an increase of $153,361 97. The figures show that the business was seriously affected by the panic during the whole of 1874, culminating in December last, when the earnings reached their lowest point. The earnings for 1873 were of the main line only, while those of 1874 embrace the Low Grade division (or Bennett's Branch) from May 1st. The earnings of this branch, during the seven months for which it has been opened for through traffic, were $266,-735 02, equal to $4,156 per mile per annum, and are as favorable as could be hoped for, considering the state of trade. The report gives full details as to the floating and funded debt, and other matters in which the public and the stockholders may be interested. At the election, over 30,000 shares were voted, and the old board was re-elected, without opposition—a fact which speaks well for the present management.

THE Court of Appeals, of New York, which is made up mainly of Democrats, and is relied upon as its principal support by the corrupt Canal Ring of that State, has come to the conclusion, it is said, to release TWEED from his imprisonment, on the ground that the court below had no power to sentence him separately on the separate counts of the same indictment.

It matters little upon what ground he is to be released. If that ground had not been discovered, some other would have been. Where there is a will there is a way. The TWEED ring understands, in this case, and the way has been found. The material fact is that TWEED, the greatest political scoundrel of the age, is to be released from prison by a Democratic court; and the public will be just as correct in their conclusions if they infer that he is to be released solely because he is a Democrat and still possessed of power, as they will be to conclude that there was a legal defect in his conviction.

The release of TWEED was, it was understood and openly charged last fall, a part of the bargain which accomplished the party's election to Governor. The party was suffering by having its legitimate head in prison; and as soon as he gets out it can march all the freer for having the right man in front.

An Ancient Fraud at Last Run to Earth.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has just rendered a decision canceling a patent, known as the Freytag patent, of lands between high and low water mark in Philadelphia, which since 1830 has clouded titles and been the fruitful source of fraud. The *Ledger* says:

> The pretended patent boldly took away the river front, from (and, we believe, including part of) the navy yard down to the improvement of the Pennsylvania Railroad on the Delaware. The immense, but valuable water privileges, was cooly mapped out and shingled over with fraudulent mortgages, to an extent that has hitherto proven a puzzle to lawyers and courts, and sales by the real owners. Of course, some of the parties now dealing in these false securities are losers to the amount invested by them in the purchase. For the most part, however, the mortgages were hawked about outside of Philadelphia, as but few persons in their senses would buy a security resting on real estate here without taking the opinion of counsel. In this way, for years past, these pretended titles have been submitted, and rejected as often as they came before our lawyers and conveyancers, and finally they were used by dishonest men for all sorts of dishonest purposes. Bogus companies borrowed or bought them to create a show of capital for investments, and moneyless speculators used them in various ways. Still there may be some innocent people who have paid away their money for them, and still ignorant of the fact that they have been cheated egregiously. The whole history of this transaction shows that the thieves operated on a deep and well-planned out this huge fraud in 1839 knew the defects of the law and the delay incident to litigation well enough to count safely on a harvest of grain.

The Mobile *Register* of the 7th inst. contains the obituary of "Daphne," a colored woman, of whom it is said: "During successive visitations of yellow fever she has been recognized as the most efficient and kind-hearted of nurses, and hundreds of our people owe their lives to her care. During the war she became known to thousands of Confederate soldiers by her attention to them whensick and in distress, and the families of many of those who were far away in camp, were indebted to the kindness of honest, warm-hearted, faithful Daphne for relief in their troubles and necessities."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

AFTER THE STORM.

After the storm, a calm;
After the bruise, a balm;
For the ill brings good, in the Lord's own time;
And the sigh becomes the psalm.

After the drought, the dew;
After the cloud, the blue;
For the sky will smile, in the sun's good time,
And the earth grow glad and new.

Bloom is the heir of blight,
Dawn is the child of night,
And the rolling change of the busy world
Bids the wrong yield back the right.

Under the fount of ill
Many a cup doth fill,
And the patient lip, though it drinketh oft,
Finds only the bitter still.

Truth seemed oft to sleep,
Blessings slow to reap,
Till the hours of waiting are weary to bear,
And the courage is hard to keep!

Nevertheless, I know
Out of the dark must grow
Sooner or later, whatever is fair,
Since the heavens have willed it so.

His name is Boyton—not Boynton.

Leavenworth, Kansas, is to have a rolling mill.

The old Free Soilers are to have a gathering in Boston next fall.

To cover our floors with foreign carpets cost $6,172,564 last year.

The Pension Office books at Washington, show rejected claims to the number of 60,-000.

The new Maritime Exchange of Philadelphia was opened for business on Tuesday.

In West Newbury, Massachusetts, they have just found a coal mine, which promises well.

Fat takes. Seven female compositors in the office of a Boston weekly paper weigh 1,220 pounds.

It will require seven years of steady work to construct the tunnel between England and France.

Our ships of war are manned by crews two-thirds of whom owe no allegiance to the American flag.

No wonder that New York is such a wicked place. It has upwards of four thousand lawyers.

Secretary Delano is nearly dead with dyspepsia. He has been confined to his room for several days.

Taking the aggregate value of church property in the United States, the Catholics own nearly one-fifth of it.

Kansas papers express the belief that the present will be the most fruitful year that State has ever experienced.

The murder of a British surveying party in India has been avenged by the utter destruction of five Indian villages.

The California gold production for the first quarter of this year is $7,700,000 less than for the same period last year.

President Grant has declined to attend the centennial celebration of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

Our appreciation for foreign buttons is illustrated by the fact that last year we expended for those little articles $2,841,590.

The withdrawal of State subsidies from the Roman Catholic Church in Prussia, will deprive that Church of $900,000 annually.

An analysis of the ore recently discovered near Providence, Rhode Island, shows 38 per cent. of copper and $45 a ton in silver.

The port Cincinnati *Times* calls attention to a Bessie Turner bonnet which is "very smart and will stand the crossest examination."

Bleak, but thrifty. The deposits in the various savings banks of Nova Scotia at the end of last year, amounted to $1,583,-970 69.

An American is acting as a revival preacher in Berlin, with much success. He's a Philadelphian, and his name is Smith.

The Massachusetts Baptists intend to raise $250,000 for educational purposes, in one dollar subscriptions. It is to be a centennial gift.

Whether Pittsburgh is to be distinguished as the "Mud and Dirt Metropolis of the United States" rests with the Street Commissioners.

They are overrun with Mexican silver out in Arizona, and the people want to exchange their coin for something more convenient to handle.

The banking firm of which Colonel Fred. Grant is to become a member will be dissolved by mutual consent on the 16th, and reorganized May 1st.

Last year France had the best wine crop since 1869. It amounted in all to 1,389,214,-750 gallons, exceeding the yield of 1873 by 903,262,000 gallons.

Wise economy. Twenty-five per cent. more of corn will be planted in Georgia this year than heretofore. This will not interfere with cotton.

The trial of the persons charged with the horrible Mountain Meadow massacre, committed seventeen years ago, commenced at Beaver, Utah, yesterday.

General Devens, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, has issued an order fixing Saturday, the 29th of May, as Decoration day.

Remedying a standing nuisance. New York proposes to require all street railroad companies to furnish every passenger with a seat or receive no fare.

China is set down to furnish the world with coal in coming years. She will not only give women tea, but that which is necessary to set it a-brewing.

The Canadian Government is about to erect a light house at Banpoint, at the mouth of Detroit river. This has long been a dangerous place for navigation.

Since the war the value of personal property has increased in Virginia sixty-five per cent., and is only sixty per cent. less than when slavery was in its prime.

Strange inconsistency of folks! Tennessee groans over the taxation of a few thousands for State and county purposes, and cheerfully pays $125,000 and more annually for the dear dog, without a grunt!

Several delegations of Indians will be present at the Centennial. At the next celebration, doubtless, there will not be an Indian left living in the United States.

The atmospheric perturbations predicted by Professor Tice, continue in various parts of the country with an astonishing degree of destructiveness and violence.

Rev. T. K. Beecher says that "able preaching by itself produces laziness, sponginess, sentimentalism in the pews." Yet Henry Ward is nothing, if not an able preacher.

A New England paper says there are large tracts of improved farming lands in that section which can be purchased for less than the actual cost of the buildings upon them.

And now a Mr. Carpenter, of Evansville, Indiana, has taken a Lick at the donation business, by proposing to establish a charitable institution in that city at a cost of one million.

San Domingo bases her demand for five millions indemnity from us on the late Senator Sumner's speech, but we can't pay for speeches at that rate. The claimants can take their pay in speeches.

The first steamer built by the Western Iron Boat-building Company was successfully launched at St. Louis on Monday. It was built for the United States Engineer Service, and is intended for a snag boat.

The ears of a little boy in this city are already wonderfully developed, and still growing at the rate of an inch and a half a year. If this continues he will eventually be fitted for the editorship of a Louisville paper.

It is cited as a curious fact by the New York papers that while the filthy, tumble-down markets of that city are crowded from morning till night, no one can sell anything in those which are handsome and spacious.

An important guano deposit has been found off the coast of South America, north of Peru, which is said to rival in richness and extent the famous beds that have proved such a bonanza to the Peruvian Government.

An earnest revival is going on among the river thieves, drunkards and gamblers of the slums in Water street, New York city, the chapel used having been formerly a rendezvous for river pirates and dock thieves.

An old Spaniard recently visited Cedar Keys, Fla., from Cuba, and took back with him an iron box containing $10,000 in old coins, being part of a vast treasure buried by him and others many years ago when he was a pirate.

A hint for Brooklyn. In the Philadelphia Common Pleas, the other day, upon the rendition of a verdict, one of the witnesses whose testimony was discredited by it was immediately bound over by the court to stand his trial for perjury.

The firm of Lindholm, at San Francisco, has obtained a concession from the Russian Government for a monthly communication between Wladiwostok, on the east coast of Siberia, and Japan. This will shorten the distance from St. Petersburg from six months to fifty days.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 13, 1875.

Currency Balance in the Treasury.

The currency balance in the Treasury is running down so low as to be a matter of serious concern, and a leading Treasury official said to-day that if things were to go on as at present, he did not know what the Government would do. The Internal Revenue receipts have dropped to a very small figure, and no change for the better is anticipated until May, when the receipts from the special taxes will foot up about five million dollars. Unless the currency receipts increase very largely, the Government will find it very difficult to meet the expenditures required by the appropriation bills for the next fiscal year.

Cleveland and Toledo Custom Houses.

The real object of the visit of Special Agent Hale to the West, is to investigate some complaints of irregularities in the matter of fees at the Custom Houses of Cleveland and Toledo. These irregularities, however, do not embrace malfeasance in office, but appear to be mainly the result of a misinterpretation of regulations. Mr. Hale will also visit a number of the inland Custom Houses, at which considerable embarrassment results from lack of knowledge on the part of the officers in making out their papers in proper form.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14, 1875.

The Ohio State Election.

Prominent Ohio politicians here say that there is a disposition in that State to disconnect the approaching political campaign on local matters for the policy of the Administration. They think that the results in Connecticut demonstrate that local and national politics should not be run together.

Bar Out the Lobbyists.

The recent decision of the Supreme Court, that compensation for lobby services cannot be enforced at law, and the late experience of Congress showing the unscrupulous character of the persons known as lobbyists, will, it is thought, prompt Congress at the next session to create a bar of Congress, after the plan of the English, thus keeping their business within bounds and protecting the people from the rapacious and notorious scamps who hang about the lobbies like so many birds of prey.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14, 1875.

DEATH OF COMMISSARY GENERAL SHIRAS.

General Alexander E. Shiras, Commissary General of Subsistence, United States Army, died in this city this morning.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT CLERKS DISMISSED.

All of the clerks in the Postoffice Department implicated in the recent mail contract frauds, have been dismissed by the Postmaster General.

HARRISBURG.

Bills Signed by the Governor Yesterday.

HARRISBURG, April 12.—The following acts of the last Legislature were to-day approved by the Governor: To provide for the appointment of a State board of centennial managers; to regulate the practice of medicine, surgery and obstetrics in this Commonwealth; to provide for the election and appointment of trustees for the State Normal schools and to further regulate their management; to authorize an additional law judge in the Nineteenth judicial district; to establish a system of free banking and to secure the circulating notes from insolvent banks; to repeal an act to permit the voters of this Commonwealth to vote every three years on the question of granting licenses to sell intoxicating liquors and to restrain and regulate the sale of the same; to regulate the manner of increasing the indebtedness of municipalities; to provide for the redemption of the same and to impose penalties for the illegal increase thereof; authorizing and regulating the making of local appropriations to schools exclusively known as homes for friendless children; to provide for the expenses required by an act entitled "An act to provide for the continuance and maintenance of soldiers' orphans; "to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors and for the preservation of order at soldiers' encampments; to provide for the printing and furnishing wrappers for the *Legislative Record*; to provide for the settling of the claim of Emanuel Peters and John Laute; to reimburse A. H. Waters for clothing and funeral expenses of soldiers' orphans."

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, April 14.—The centennial celebration of the organization of the Anti-Slavery Society commenced this morning, in Concert Hall. Vice President Wilson called the assembly to order, and in a short address stated the object of the meeting and the history of the society. After praying and singing by the Hutchinson Family, Dr. William Elder delivered an eloquent review of the history of the society since its organization. Fred. Douglass followed in a speech, and Lucretia Mott was next presented by Vice President Wilson, and received with applause by a large audience. She delivered a brief address, in which she expressed the hope that the society and the nation at large would continue the work of the benefit of the colored race, in the direction of securing to them the benefits of education and protection. The meeting adjourned to Bethune Street Church at three o'clock, at which time a large audience gathered. Bishop Campbell presided, and addresses were delivered by Vice President Henry F. Wilson and others.

WILKESBARRE.

The Coal Strike—Business Prostrated.

WILKESBARRE, April 14.—The miners of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company are fully determined not to resume work until their demand for an advance of ten per cent. is granted. There are 10,000 men of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company alone who are idle, and several thousand more private operators, who are awaiting the action of the company and miners. No outrages of any kind have been committed, and there are no fears of any in this section at present, unless there should be an effort to vote on resumption, which would be productive of all hazards. Business is badly prostrated throughout the Valley on account of the long-continued strike.

NEW ORLEANS.

Meeting of the Legislature in Extra Session —The Compromise a Success.

NEW ORLEANS, April 14.—The Legislature met at noon, and was the most orderly for many years. The Conservative members were sworn in, and a resolution adopted in the House declaring the claims of those included in the award to the Committee on Elections, which will report tomorrow. Both parties seem to accept the award without opposition, and the compromise a success. Governor Kellogg's message to the Legislature was long and elaborate.

The Governor vetoed the new city charter bill of New Orleans, stating that he did so at the request of a committee of the Merchants' Exchange, Cotton Exchange and Chamber of Commerce, who were preparing city measures themselves.

FIRE RECORD.

Gloucester, New Jersey—$50.000.

GLOUCESTER, N. J., April 13.—A fire here last night burned the Washington House and three other buildings. Loss $50,000; partly insured.

Indianapolis—$7 5.000.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13.—The city last night was visited by another destructive fire, resulting in the destruction of the Union Elevator, owned by Fred. P. Rush & Co., and located west of the river. About half-past eleven an alarm was turned in and the fire department were promptly at the scene of the fire, but owing to the scarcity of water was unable to do anything toward checking the flames. The night watchman discovered a fire in one of the stalks at about 9 o'clock, and extinguished it with a Babcock extinguisher. At 11:30 he discovered a second fire on the first floor and attempted to extinguish it, but the flames had gained too much headway. There were 30,000 bushels of grain stored in the elevator, mostly corn, which, with the building, machinery, &c., is a total loss. Several cars were standing on the track beside the elevator, which, together with their contents, were destroyed. The total insurance on the building is about $28,000, while the total loss is about $75,000. The fire is supposed to have been started by incendiaries, the watchman having seen several tramps around the building early in the evening.

POLITICAL.

State.

CAMBRIA COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

EBENSBURG, April 14.—The Republicans of Cambria county to-day elected General Jacob M. Campbell, of Johnstown, and C. T. Roberts, Esq., of Ebensburg, Representative delegates to the Republican State Convention, and instructed for the Hon. Samuel Henry for Senatorial delegate. Resolutions were passed indorsing the administration of Governor John F. Hartranft, and recommending his nomination for a second term; also instructing the delegates to support Hon. Butler B. Strang, of Tioga county, for State Treasurer. The resolutions were passed unanimously.

California.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION CALLED.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 14.—The Republican State Central Committee was in session here this afternoon. The proceedings were private, but it is understood that it was decided to hold the convention at Sacramento, June 29th.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

England.

AMERICAN RIFLEMEN IN IRELAND.

LONDON, April 13.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Mr. Sullivan, member for the South, wanted to know whether the law in regard to the bearing of arms in Ireland would in any way interfere with the American riflemen who are coming to Ireland to take part in the international rifle match.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland replied that all classes would heartily welcome the American team this summer. The gentlemen from the United States who were to take part in the competition were undoubtedly law-abiding citizens. There was no reason to suppose that they would break the law or be any more likely to render themselves liable to arrest than Scotchmen or Englishmen.

Mr. Sullivan, investing on a positive assurance, so that there might be no misapprehension, the Chief Secretary replied that there would be no interference with the visitors, because it was well understood that they had no intention of breaking the law. But, if necessary, a special arrangement would be made to secure the entire freedom of movement and exemption from the formal operation of the law.

THE DECLARATION OF PARIS.

LONDON, April 13.—In the House of Commons, to-night, Captain Ballie Cochrane moved that, in the opinion of the House, the International Code Conference, to meet at St. Petersburg, affords a favorable opportunity for England to withdraw from agreement to the Declaration of Paris in 1856.

Mr. Bourke, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, spoke against the motion. He declared that England could not honorably withdraw from that declaration without the consent of the other parties who signed it. Her relinquishment of the right to seize an enemy's goods on a neutral vessel, was doubtless a great concession, but England was the gainer by the abolition of privateering and in other respects. He thought the revival of this question tended to no good results. On the contrary, it was likely to raise other grave issues, and if persisted in would render England liable to the charge of a breach of faith.

The motion was rejected by a vote—35 ayes to 261 nays.

THE WAR CLOUD.

BERLIN, April 13.—The *North German Gazette* accepts as reassuring the disavowal by the French press of war-like intentions.

Germany.

SPEECH OF BISMARCK ON THE STATE OF THE BILL.

BERLIN, April 14.—In the Upper House of the Prussian Diet, to-day, the bill withdrawing State grants from the Roman Catholic clergy was under debate.

Prince Bismarck made a speech, in which he declared that since the Vatican Council the Catholic Bishops were merely the Pope's prefects, and that he was not an enemy of the Catholic Church; he warred only against Papacy, which had adopted the principle of extermination of heretics and which was in enmity with the Gospel, as well as with the Prussian State.

TRANQUILIZING ASSURANCES.

BERLIN, April 14.—The Government journals give tranquilizing assurances in regard to the relations of Prussia with foreign powers.

Austria.

REPORTED MASSACRE OF CHRISTIANS IN ROUMANIA AND BULGARIA.

VIENNA, April 14.—It is reported that the Turks have murdered 270 Christians in Roumania and Bulgaria during the last three months, and that the names of the victims have been communicated to the foreign representatives in Constantinople.

FENNSYLVANIA COAL STRIKE.

Resolutions of Sympathy from the Industrial Congress of the United States—Contributions Solicited for the Strikers.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 14.—Touching the great coal strike in Pennsylvania, the industrial Congress of the United States, now in session in this city, unanimously passed the following this afternoon:

WHEREAS, The men of a large portion of the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania now are, and have been more than three months past have been, locked out by a combination of six monster coal-running and carrying corporations, because unwilling to accept a reduction of thirty and forty per cent. of their wages, for which reduction there is no real justification; and

WHEREAS, The said combination or conspiracy of railroad and coal companies is impelled to the attempt to thus pauperize their employees by the fact that, to make themselves monopolists, they have borrowed and invested many millions of British capital on which they are pledged to pay rates of interest which are excessive, oppressive and unjust; and

WHEREAS, The effect of the success of their schemes will be a practical repetition of the effects of what is known in history as "Strike parliament;" and

WHEREAS, A contest of this kind is of infinitely more serious moment to the working people severally, than are ordinary strikes; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the representatives of the industrial classes, in session assembled, hereby tender their heartfelt sympathies to the miners, and request the co-operation by request all organized bodies of workingmen throughout the country to forward to the Treasurer of this Congress as generous contributions as their circumstances will permit; such funds to be applied to the relief of the victims of this foul conspiracy.

THE PUDDLERS' STRIKE.

An End of the Lock-Out—The Furnaces Relighted and a General Resumption of Business to Follow—Action of the Iron Association.

Aside from any consideration of terms, our whole community and the thousands dependant upon them in the mills and workshops and beyond will rejoice to learn that the great iron workers' lock-out of 1874–5 is at an end. Already in hundreds of furnaces the fires have been relighted, and within a few days all of the manufactories in all departments will be in full blast, and a revival of business and activity and thrift will follow. It is not necessary to give any lengthy account of the great lock out, or the causes that led to it and the incidents of its progress. Its history is fresh in the minds of all our readers to require a recital. It will be remembered that the three iron mills of Pittsburgh and vicinity were allowed to blow out on the 5th day of December, 1874, upon thirty days' notice from the manufacturers, as required by the agreement entered into with the boilers when the shilling scale was adopted. On the afternoon of Saturday, the 7th of November, a conference was had between committees of the manufacturers and of the Boilers' Union, at the room of the Iron Association, Fourth avenue. They shall be published at length in these columns. The manufacturers claimed (as they until now have done) that the fall in the price of iron, and the general stagnation in trade required them to ask a reduction in the wages of puddlers. The boilers' committee maintained that full price, six dollars, was being paid elsewhere, and that other manufacturers in the trade must amount. those of Pittsburgh should be able to do the same.

There was, as indicated, "no use talking;" no arrangement or agreement could be arrived at. Subsequent operations of this resolution may, but still no conclusion was arrived at. At a meeting held December 9th, when the fires had been blown out, what was supposed to have been the last conference meeting was held and the following notice was given. The manufacturers offered $5 per ton, while the boilers proposed $5 50 with ten and a half card rate as their price. Then there was quiet for a month or more, during which time several informal meetings. Finally another conference was held, but each side side disclaimed proposing it, though there was evidently a desire on both sides through the strike the puddlers received continued aid from the other departments, and branch of business from all parts of the Union; the stagnation of trade in every branch increased and the iron trade was driven elsewhere. This last caused a restlessness among the manufacturers. Lloyd & Son were the first to recommence work, paying $6 00 per ton, the old price, stating that it was special and temporary. Then the Sligo forwards a few other firms resumed for short periods, and thus a constant flurry of expectation was kept up.

This week the crisis came, however. Messrs. Glass, Shorb & Co. of Sharpsburg works had acceded to the terms of the boilers, $5 50 per ton, and others weakened, resulting in the rout of the Iron Association, when the Iron Association held Wednesday, when the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Resolutions adopted at a meeting of the Iron Manufacturers.

WHEREAS, In December last the Iron Manufacturers of Pittsburgh and vicinity made a demand upon their Boilers for a reduction in the price of boiling $5 40 per ton and a ten card, and $4 50 per ton on a 7-10 cent card, until such a time as the profit of manufacturing iron should advance to over a 3 cent card, when the 7old scale should be restored, which demand was rejected by the boilers and a strike ensued, which has continued to the present time, and

WHEREAS, The reason given by the manufacturers for making such demand, was their inability to pay anything more, on account of iron that was current at that time, without entailing loss upon themselves, and

WHEREAS, There has been a considerable improvement in the price of manufactured iron up to the present time, now liable improvement in the general situation, and the representations made to our boilers in our conferences with them in connection with the strike, and which we believed to be *strictly true*, apply with equal force to the present time and situation, yet some of the firms who have heretofore acted with us in our efforts to reduce the price of boiling to a fair and equitable basis for the present price of iron, for reasons known only to themselves, have withdrawn their co-operation and have started their mills at $5 per ton, therefore, be it

Resolved, That in view of their action, and the fact that Western mills are running and taking the trade which largely belongs to Pittsburgh, we deem it inexpedient any longer continue the suspension of our mills, and that we all, or as many of us as desire, resume work at $5 50 per ton.

J. C. LEWIS, President.

Chess, Smyth & Co., are among the firms which will resume this morning. All the furnaces in the puddling department will run double turn. The mill factory will be in full operation next Monday.

The American Iron Works, Jones & Laughlin, will also resume. This is the largest establishment in the city. Last night the fires were lighted and the mill in all departments will be in full blast to-day.

The establishment of Messrs. Lindsay, McCutcheon & Co., in the Fifth ward, Allegheny, is also about resuming in all departments, as the puddlers are also under orders to go to work this morning.

It may be stated that the iron men hold to their avowal that there can be no profit at this price while iron remains at the present quotation; but in view of the withdrawal of trade from the city and for the general good of the community it has been decided to break the resolution and allow each firm to do as may seem best.

THE ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD.

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Exhibit for the Years 1873--'74.

A LARGE FALLING OFF IN GROSS EARNINGS.

Increase in Net Earnings of $56,434 45.

Effects of the Panic on Transportation —Cutting Down Expenditures—Outcome of the Low Grade Division—The Oil Creek and Allegheny and Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburgh Lines —The Floating and Funded Debt— Election of Directors, Etc., Etc.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company was held yesterday, at the General Office of the company, on Eleventh and Pike streets, and was called to order by Mr. Henry Wheelen.

Robert K. Wilson, Esq., was chosen Chairman, and W. P. Shinn, Esq., Secretary, after which the minutes of the last annual meeting of April 24, 1874, were read and approved.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Secretary, Mr. Shinn, then read the annual report of President John Scott, under date of April 12, 1874, as follows:

To the Stockholders of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company:

GENTLEMEN: The illness of your late President, which terminated in his death on the morning of April 14th, 1874, the day fixed for your last annual meeting, having prevented the preparation of a report upon the business of the company for the year 1873, our Board of Managers submit herewith a statement of the results of the traffic of the years 1873 and 1874, and of the financial condition of the company to December 31st, 1874.

The earnings of the company for the years ending December 31st, 1873 and 1874, have been as follows:

	1874.	1873.	Decrease.
Operating expenses per cent	56 7-10	67 5-10	10 8-10
Total expenses, per cent	60 1-10	71 6-10	11 5-10

while per mile run by trains they

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 17, 1875.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 14, 1875.

The money market of Pittsburgh has undergone no changes during the day. The banks are still ready buyers of paper that is satisfactory, and parties whose names will stand inspection or who can furnish marketable collaterals are supplied with money at moderate rates. From out of town parties there is some inquiry for city names, but a tour among the bill brokers develops very little good paper in their hands. Rates of discount remain as last quoted.

—The reported movement on the part of some of the paddlers and other iron workers to lease one or more of the idle rolling mills and try what they can do toward solving the differences between them and capitalists is an encouraging sign. The efforts to found co-operative societies in this neighborhood have not heretofore been very successful, numerous attempts having been made by the glass blowers, resulting, in nearly every case, in failure, principally, we believe from the lack of business experience. Very few such societies have the pecuniary strength to carry out their undertakings without borrowing, and when once launched on the uncertain sea of credit, their want of knowledge of commercial usage and their known lack of capital operates unfavorably. The experience bought by such failures should have the effect of making new aspirants sufficiently cautious in their management to avoid the errors of the past.

There is no good reason why a combination of skilled workmen should not succeed in the manufacture of iron, as they have succeeded in other branches of manufactures.

Robert Dale Owen, in his autobiography, gives an interesting account of the principle of co-operation as put in practice by his father in his works at New Lanack, and afterward at Harmony, Indiana, where he purchased an extensive property from the Economites.

The apostle of co-operation in France was Louis Blanc, yet his central idea was rather governmental supervision and regulation than simple co-operation of individuals. A scheme that must necessarily have failed, as corruption and mismanagement sooner or later developes itself in all undertakings conducted by a government.

It is in Great Britain that co-operative societies have been the most successful. It was there that the celebrated Rochdale Pioneer's Society was founded by seventeen weavers, with a total capital of $140, from which has grown a successful business of large proportions.

At the present time their capital is reported to be over $650,000, of which $230,000 is used as a working capital, $100,000 being represented by permanent investments, and the remainder is invested in shares of or loans to other societies of a similar nature. Three years ago it had nearly 6,500 members, and its gross business for the year was over $2,300,000, and it paid the members a cash dividend of 12 per cent. The latest reports of all the societies of this nature in Great Britain show that they own in property and stock $5,932,820, and have a capital stock of $11,529,755. The net profits for the year were $3,350,000, and the number of members 262,188.

The ultimate possibilities of intelligent co-operation are almost unlimited, and if the present troubles between the working men and the mill owners result in the successful application of the principle of co-operation, the lock-out will not have been without some good results.

—A Washington letter gives the following account of the redemption of national bank notes:

"The Redemption Bureau of the Treasury Department is doing very active work now in the way of receiving, assorting, destroying and redeeming national bank notes in legal tenders. The current operations of this department take about $6,000,000 from the currency of the United States; two millions being all the time in the course of assortment, two millions coming to be assorted, and two millions on the way to the senders of the mutilated or worn notes for redemption. This makes $14,000,000 bank notes, and $2,000,000 greenbacks; for when a batch of notes unfit for circulation are received, the first thing done after counting them is to return an equivalent in legal tenders, so that the bank sending it will not lose the interest on their money, and to encourage the return of old notes.

"The present doing this work is almost perfect. The first difficulty encountered here was the miscellaneous and mutilated character of the money to be redeemed. The next was the fact that there was not room enough allowed to do it in. The next was that it was an entirely new matter, and there was no clue to the notes whereby clerks could easily distribute them. Almost daily counterfeits and over-issues

"All these difficulties have been surmounted. The redeeming office has been enlarged, and furniture and cases have been suited to the business. The old clerks have gained experienced to the business, and several new clerks have been added. The result is that it was a growing better, and less, in fact, as to its proportion to the entire currency; the counterfeits have probably also been found out, and the over-issues are known the same as a counterfeit presented, so that the question of redemption is taken, and the work is regular and efficient.

"The amount of national bank notes received for redemption at the National Bank Redemption Agency during the month of March was $15,360,940. The total amount received since its organization last July was $100,565,688. The amount received and paid for during the month of March was $11,357,332. The total amount redeemed and paid for to the first of April was $87,307,788. The amount assorted and delivered to the Comptroller of the Currency during the month of March was $11,775,859. The total amount assorted and delivered to the Comptroller of the Currency to the first of April was $78,237,000.

"The difference between the amount received and the amount redeemed is the amount of notes fit for circulation, exchanged with the Treasury Department for notes unfit for circulation, and of notes of banks in liquidation, closing or reducing capital, turned over to the Treasury. The redeeming agency have just begun the assortment of notes fit for circulation, which the law requires to be returned to the respective banks to which they were received. The sub-treasurers are required to send only such national bank notes received by them as are unfit for circulation for redemption, but a bank or individual may send any kind of a national bank note for redemption."

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National bank, No. 16, Sixth street:

April 14, 1875.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	113⅛	113⅛	113⅛	113⅛	113⅛	113⅛
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	118¾	118¾	118¾	118¾	118¾	118¾
5-20's, 1862	118⅝				118⅝	
5-20's, 1864	118¾				118¾	
5-20's, 1865, reg.	121⅛				121⅛	
5-20's, 1865, new	121⅝				121⅝	
5-20's, 1867	121⅞				121⅞	
5-20's, 1868	122⅛				122⅛	
10-40's, coupons	116⅛				116⅛	
Currency 6's	126½				126½	
New 5 per cents	108½				108½	
Western Union Tel.	77⅞	77⅞	77⅞	77⅞	77⅞	77⅞
Quicksilver	37¼				37¼	
Pacific Mail	43⅜	43⅜	43⅜	43⅜	43⅜	43⅜
Panama					101½	
Adams Express					101	
Wells-Fargo Express					57	
American Express					64	
United States Express					62	
New York Central						101½
Erie	22¾	22¾	31⅜	31⅜	31⅜	31⅜
Michigan Central						94
Michigan Southern	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾
Illinois Central						75
Cleve. & Pittsburgh					92	
Chicago & Northw'n	45	45	45	45	45	45
Do preferred	56				58	
Rock Island	108⅜	108⅜	108⅜	108⅜	108⅜	108⅜
St. Paul, common	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾
Do preferred						45
Wabash, common	15	14½	15	15	15	15
Fort Wayne						97
Ohio & Mississippi	21	21	21	21	21	21
Union Pacific	71¾	70¾	70½	70⅝	70¾	70¾
Harlem		127				127
Hannibal & St. Jos.		25¾				25¾
Iron Mountain		37				37
C. C. & I. C.	6¾	6¾			6¾	6¾
Terre Haute, coup.		6¼				
Tennessee, new		74				
South Carolinas, July		31				
South Carolinas, Jan		31				
Missouri 6's		99				99¼

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central, sales	55⅝
Reading	56¾
United Co's. of N. Jersey	123
Oil Creek	9½
Lehigh Valley, sales	62¾
Allegheny Valley	41
Central Trans. Co.	43½
P., C. and St. Louis m.	77

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, April 14, 1875.

There was a moderately brisk trade to-day in most branches of business, the movement being liberal and generally at firmly maintained prices. Grain, flour and produce were quite active. Groceries were not so brisk, only a moderate business being done. There is a steady jobbing movement in provisions at firm prices. Dry goods, boots and shoes, general merchandise, &c., were moderately brisk. The renewal of the report that the rolling mills were about to resume work lent confidence to the tone of trade generally, and the opinion was expressed that with that event a new impetus would be given to the mercantile circles of Pittsburgh.

The following were the exports of grain and provisions from the four leading seaboard cities of the United States for the periods named:

	Week end'g April 10, 1875.	Week end'g April 3, 1875.	Week end'g April 11, 1874.
Flour, bbls	49,393	64,102	82,467
Wh't, bu	663,950	539,528	311,736
Corn, bu	594,020	496,075	793,936
Rye, bus	5,061	24,114	6,383
Pork, bls	8,596	6,927	5,695
Lard, lbs	5,314,277	4,526,782	5,684,000
Bac'n, lbs	4,334,000	5,067,291	7,371,000

*From five points.

The San Francisco *Bulletin* of the 20th says of the prospects of the crop in that State for this season:

"The outlook is even better. There is a good promise of an extraordinary yield of grain and grasses. With no drought on the list of April, and the season quite a forward one, there are no dry weather misgivings to be met with now in, except as to a few sections where drought is the rule and moisture the exception. On the presumption that this farm crop will be good for all farming industries, we may count on the following items:

Wheat, bs	50,000,000
Wine, gals	15,000,000
Wheat, bush	45,000,000

"Then there are the smaller items, the aggregate of which is always large, such as hay, oats, barley, tobacco, small fruits, beet sugar, flour in bulk, and cheese, and we may roughly estimate the agricultural products of the year to crowd hard on to the value of $100,000,000."

In the leading markets to-day values were generally firm. In grain, wheat and corn were steady, while oats were a shade higher. Produce was active, with butter and eggs weak; potatoes are moderately active at the recent decline. Seeds were in strong demand, and firm. Groceries were steady without quotable change in values. Provisions were sold steadily at former quotations, though the tendency of the leading markets for hog products is easier. In other respects the market was steady and unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	2,420	Apples, bbls	150
Cheese, lbs	25	Corn, bush	3,398
Oats, bush	2,118	Butter, pkgs	112
Bacon, lbs	205	Potatoes, bush	3,932
Hay, bales	330		

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

	Last week	This week	Total.
Flour, bbls	9,323	9,793	19,116
Apples, bbls	1,128	1,950	3,078
Cheese, lbs	281	75	356
Corn, bush	4,488	7,110	11,598
Wheat, bush	2,956	1,590	4,546
Barley, bush	5,420	8,675	14,095
Rye, bush	143		143
Oats, bush	* 13,098	15,724	28,810
Butter, pkgs	728	580	1,308
Bacon, pcs	1,345	3,570	10,905
Bacon, lbs	591	787	1,387
Potatoes, bush	11,477	17,099	28,576
Hay, bales	2,930	1,255	5,185

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The receipts continue very light, being only 33,392 bushels for the past week, and 39,902 of No. 1 kinds of grain for the past two weeks. The light supply gives prices an exceedingly firm and upward tendency, although from the meager scarcity of offerings transactions are limited. Wheat is firm, although the information as last received are more favorable for a good crop. On this point the Chicago *Tribune* says: "The advices now coming in all indicate that the unusual fears of widespread damage to the winter wheat were without adequate foundation. The advices now generally reported as favorable, and the prospects for the spring wheat crop are very fair. Reports from all parts of the Northwest will probably be much less than last year. Still there is a better demand for the article, both here and in New York, and the outward movement at both points is good as compared with the receipts. The latter being small here keeps down to a rather low point offerings of cash lots, and this tends to firmness." The absence of offerings, and consequently of transactions, precludes alteration in our quotations, but no purchases of importance could be made at present figures. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 30 @1 35 per bushel; extra Michigan white at 1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois do $1 20@1 25; summer do at 1 15@1 20; and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 15@1 17. Receipts for the past week are only 1,590 bushels. Corn was in good demand and strong. Receipts for the past week 7,318 bushels against 4,488 for the week preceding. We quote shelled at 80@81c bushel for yellow; 78@79c for high mixed; 76@78c for low mixed; car steady at 76@80c for yellow on track; 75@77c for mixed. Oats were in very light supply and higher. Receipts were 15,724 bushels for the week ending to-day; 13,089 bushels for the previous week. We quote at 70@71c per bushel for white and 68@69c for mixed. Barley is nominally quoted at $1 25@1 30 for No. 2. Receipts for the week 8,675 bushels, mostly of No. 1 consigned to brewers direct. There is nothing doing in rye, and only 145 bushels have arrived during the past two weeks.

FLOUR—The market continues active and firm, in sympathy with the grain markets. The freight rates on flour between this city and Chicago are attracting considerable attention, as the discrimination against Pittsburgh operate to make flour relatively higher here than either the West or the East. The receipts for the past two weeks have been very liberal—aggregating 19,116 barrels. The following are the prices of the local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $6 20 @ 6 50; No. 2 amber wheat do $6 50; red wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 30c off @ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $6 50@6 75; Wisconsin $5 75; Minnesota $5 00@6 25; red winter wheat flour $6 25; rye flour $5 75@6 00; Graham flour $5 75@6 00; self-raising flour, in 6 lb packages, $3 25 @ dozen packages; cornmeal $5 50; oatmeal $7 75@8 00.

HAY—Receipts continue large, being 2,295 bales for the week ending to-day. The stock is somewhat in excess of the demand, and prices are depressed. We quote prime timothy, on track, at $20 00@21 00 @ ton; No. 2 do $16 00@18 00; mixed timothy and clover, baled hay from store is quoted at $23 00@24 00. Loose hay is selling at $25 00@26 00 for No. 1; $25 00@ 26 00 for No. 2. Straw is quoted at $10 00@18 00 @ ton.

MILL FEED—The market is easier. Bran is steady at $1 20@1 25 @ cwt; shorts $1 25@1 35 @ cwt; middlings $1 45@1 55 @ cwt; chopped feed $1 50@1 55 @ cwt; screenings $1 30@2 00 @ cwt.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Receipts 1,319 barrels, for the past week. The stock in first hands is still large, and the market was dull with no visible improvement in the demand, as yet. We quote choice at $2 50@2 75 @ bbl; prime $2 00@ 2 50; common to medium at $1 25@1 75.

APPLE BUTTER—Is in fair supply and prices are easy. We quote at 50@55c @ gallon, in kegs, for prime; 45@50c for common.

BEANS—The demand is slow, and the market is weak. We quote good to prime white navy at $2 00@2 10 @ bushel; medium $1 90@2 00; fair to good $1 70@1 80.

BUTTER—Receipts 508 packages, (estimated at over 40,000 pounds) for the past week, against 728 packages the preceding week. The market is dull and draggy for common to medium grades, which are very hard to sell at any price. Prime table butter, also that for packing is a fair demand, is weak and drooping in value. The same state of affairs seems to pervade the butter markets both in the East and West. We quote prime to choice at 23@26c per lb; 15@ 20c for common to medium.

BEESWAX—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 31@32c ₱ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 34@35c ₱ lb.

CHEESE—Prices are steady at 16¼@17c ₱ lb for Ohio factory; New York factory, 17@17½c; Sweitzer 17@18c ₱ lb. Receipts for two weeks are only 356 lbs.

EGGS—The supply continues large and prices are lower. We quote at 17@18c ₱ dozen for strictly fresh.

HOMINY—The market rules at $4 50 ₱ barrel.

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, ₱ lb, 55@60c; for common to choice mixed, as to quality, No. 2, ₱ lb, 20@50c, as to quality.

MIXED MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a job. lot.

MAPLE SUGAR—Maple sugar is sold at 14c ₱ lb for choice cakes; common to good [illegible]; maple syrup in gallon jugs sells readily at $1 50 ₱ gallon in kegs and barrels at 25. The stock of maple sweets is not large, and the market is steady.

POTATOES—The past week's receipts have been the largest since last fall, aggregating 17,099 bushels. All interest appears to be active demand, these heavy arrivals weakened the market, and as already noted, prices fell about 5c. Early in the day a slight improvement in quotations were not materially changed, although dealers would not make a sale rather than make a concession of 5@10c from asking prices. We quote from store at $1 10@1 15 ₱ bushel for prime Early Rose; $1 00@1 10 for peerless; $1 00@1 10; other grades 95c@$1 00. Sales on track were limited at $1 00@1 05 ₱ bushel for special lots; 85@90c for Peerless.

PRESERVES AND DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 7½@8c ₱ lb; sun-dried blackberries are easy at 9@10c ₱ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8½@9c ₱ lb for choice halves. Honey is in good demand and firm at 30c for clover; buckwheat blossom 25c ₱ lb. Medium pickles are quoted at $9 00 ₱ barrel; $5 00 ₱ half barrel.

SEEDS—Cloverseed is moderately active; timothy, $2 40@2 50 ₱ bushel in a jobbing way. Timothy seed quiet at $1 90@2 70 in round lots; $2 75@3 00 in a jobbing way; flax seed is scarce, and no stock is offering; quoted nominally at $1 35 @1 40; orchard grass is quoted at $2 50@3 00 ₱ bushel; blue grass 60 @1 50; red-top do $2 00. Onion sets are in demand at $7 50@8 50 ₱ bushel.

VINEGAR—The market is dull and there are few sales. We know nothing to pay at 15@ 16c ₱ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

Groceries.

There was a good jobbing and order demand for standard groceries to-day, with values generally firmly maintained. Eastern reports show a moderately steady feeling for coffees, sugars, molasses, syrups, &c. We repeat former quotations as follows:

Green Coffees. ₱ lb.	*Sugars.*
Fancy Rio	20 Standard A	10¼c
Choice Rio	19c Standard B	10c
Prime Rio	18c Standard extra C	9¾c
Good Rio	20 c Franklin extra C	9½c
Java	33 c American extra C	9¼c
Roasted Coffees.	Crushed	11½c
Rio, in papers	27 c Cut loaf	12 c
Rio, in bulk	20½c Crushed	11½c
Java, in papers	40 c Powdered	11½c
Java, in bulk	30½c Granulated	11½c
Young Hyson	20@40 c	*Molasses.* ₱ gall.
Gunpowder	30@ 1 25	Strictly ch'c N.O	70c
Imperial	30@ 1 25	Prime	65c
Japan	35@ 1 00	Good	60c
Oolong	25@ 85	*Syrups.*
English Breakfast	25@ 75	Ex. white coffee	75c
Souchong	28@ 60	Sugar drips	65c
		Lower grades	45@50c
Choice Carol'a S	@33½c	*Starch.* ₱ lb.
Patna	7½@8 c	Pearl	5
Mahogroon	7½@8 c	Corn	9½c
Spices.		Corn	10½c
Cloves	35 c	*Raisins.*
Allspice	17½@18½c	Layers, ₱ box	@3 25
Cassia	33 @35 c	Valentias, ₱ lb	12 c
Nutmegs	110@125	Loose muscatels	12½c
Pepper	26 @27 c	Prunes	10@12½c
Soaps.		*Soaps.*
Star, full weight	18½c	Irish soap, ₱ box	$1 50
Star, inc	15 c	Babbitt's best ₱ box	7 00
Soda.		*Candles.* ₱ lb.
B'c'arb, in 10-₱ kgs	6c	German Mottled	7 c
B'c'arb, in ₱ papers	8c	

Teas—There is a steady and strong demand. Quotations are as follows:

Spun roll	60@63c
Black Natal	53@56c
Flack Tens	57@60c
Louisville Navy	62@68c
Valleyfield Gun	60@65c
Virginia Navy	58@63c
Virginia Twist	48@52c
Virginia Cav	39@43c
Double Thick	65@68c
Foundation	35@40c
Bright pounds	6@ 8
Black Quarters	5@6c
Havana	50@150

Fish—There is a fair demand at steady prices. We quote as follows:

No. 1 extra mess mackerel, ₱ bbl	Large do ₱ 100
No. 1 mess	23 00
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00
No. 1 bay	14 00
No. 2 bay	11 50
New No. 3	9 50
Scotch codfish, medium, ₱ 100	Round do. 25@3 75
Canned Salmon	2 00
Canned Trout	1 75

The market rules at a moderate but steady jobbing trade. Tomatoes, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $1 75@2 00; peaches, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $3 50; pie peaches, $2 75@3 00; pine apples, 2-lb cans, $2 55; string beans, 2-lb cans, $1 75; cherries, $2 50@3 00; pine apples, 3-lb cans, $4 50; cans, $1 75@2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans, $1 25; raspberries, 2-lb cans, $2 00; asparagus, 2½-lb cans, $3 00; pineapples, 3-lb cans, do; pears, 2-lb cans, $2 25; pint pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; quart pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; ½ gallon pickles, ₱ doz, $2 25.

CANNED GOODS—There is a moderate but steady jobbing trade. Tomatoes, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $1 75@2 00; peaches, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $3 50; pie peaches, $2 75@3 00; pine apples, 2-lb cans, $2 55; string beans, 2-lb cans, $1 75; cherries, $2 50@3 00; pine apples, 3-lb cans, $4 50; cans, $1 75@2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans, $1 25; raspberries, 2-lb cans, $2 00; asparagus, 2½-lb cans, $3 00; pineapples, 3-lb cans, do; pears, 2-lb cans, $2 25; pint pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; quart pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; ½ gallon pickles, ₱ doz, $2 25.

CANNED OIL—The market is easier. We quote 125@130c for prime to choice, delivered on the cars, are made at a reduction on these rates.

Provisions.

There is a somewhat easier feeling in the market for hog products here, but no alteration in values. Some dealers predict that the reduction in prices West will be only temporary, and indeed the last reports from Chicago show a firm and unchanged feeling. Sales here are moderate, being 3,750 pieces and 787 pieces during the past week.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 9½@10c ₱ lb; rib sides are quoted at 12@13½c; clear rib sides 13½c; clear sides 13¾@14c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 16c ₱ lb; sugar cured shoulders at 10½@ 11c ₱ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 14c; dried beef 12½@13c; beef tongues, ₱ dozen $7 50.

MESS PORK—The market is steady and advanced. We quote at $20 00@20 50 ₱ bbl.

LARD—Is firm at quotations. We quote prime lard, in tierces, ₱ lb, 9c; half bbls do 9½c; in buckets, 17-lb, 10c; 3-lb pails, 10½c; in 5-lb caddies do, 10¾c; in 3-lb pails do, 10½c; in 5-lb do, 10¾c; in 6-lb do, 10c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 12 ₱ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c ₱ lb for choice, and 7½@7¾c for medium.

The Chicago *Tribune* makes the following comments upon the provision market of that city last Monday: "Hog products were moderately active, but quite weak. Live hogs were only in fair supply, and quoted stronger, but there was a general desire to sell product which here drawn all before it. This is, perhaps, not to be wondered at in pork, which is mostly kept up on margins deposited by speculative operators, many of whom live in the country, and are apt to be all on the same side, either in buying or selling. But there is a good deal of money under hard pressure, and both being held by capitalists who are not usually dismayed by a temporary turn in quotations. Add to this the fact that lard is in light stock, and that meats are low as compared with pork, and there is still less apparent reason for a decline in those articles. The only cause assigned to be, however, the fact that large quantities of country-cured meat were understood to be awaiting purchasers. The weakness in New York was only a consequence of our decline—not its cause. Contrary to the usual rule, there was scarcely an attempt to rally, the course of the market being downwards, almost steadily from soon after the opening to very near the close."

General Merchandise.

ALES—Trade continues dull and unsatisfactory, with prices depressed and weak. We quote: X $6 00 ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Bass' English ale, in kilderkins of 32 gallons, $25 00@25 00; barrels, 41 gallons, $16 00@41 00; hhds, 68 gallons, $26 50@55 00; in cases, 4 dozen bottles, $20 75. William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of 8 dozen bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, $2 75@ 3 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Coobrane's ginger ale $2 75 ₱ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₱ dozen.

AMMUNITION AND BIRDSHOTS—We quote alcohol at $2 25@2 35 ₱ gallon. Highwines are easier at $1 15@1 17 ₱ gallon.

ARSENIC—Is in fair supply and prices are easy. We quote at 5@6 50c ₱ gallon, in kegs, for prime; 4@5c for common.

BEANS—The demand is slow, and the market is weak. We quote good to prime white navy at $2 00@2 10 ₱ bushel; medium $1 90@2 00; fair to good $1 70@1 80.

BRICKS—Receipts 508 packages, (estimated at over 40,000 pounds) for the past week, against 728 packages the preceding week. The market is dull and draggy for common to medium grades, which are very hard to sell at any price. Prime table butter, also that for packing is a fair demand, is weak and drooping in value. The same state of affairs seems to pervade the butter markets both in the East and West. We quote prime to choice at 23@26c per lb; 15@ 20c for common to medium.

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SEEDS—Cloverseed is moderately active; timothy, $2 40@2 50 ₱ bushel in a jobbing way. Timothy seed quiet at $1 90@2 70 in round lots; $2 75@3 00 in a jobbing way; flax seed is scarce, and no stock is offering; quoted nominally at $1 35 @1 40; orchard grass is quoted at $2 50@3 00 ₱ bushel; blue grass 60 @1 50; red-top do $2 00. Onion sets are in demand at $7 50@8 50 ₱ bushel.

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Java	33 c American extra C	9¼c
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Rio, in bulk	20½c Crushed	11½c
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Java, in bulk	30½c Granulated	11½c
Young Hyson	20@40 c	*Molasses.* ₱ gall.
Gunpowder	30@ 1 25	Strictly ch'c N.O	70c
Imperial	30@ 1 25	Prime	65c
Japan	35@ 1 00	Good	60c
Oolong	25@ 85	*Syrups.*
English Breakfast	25@ 75	Ex. white coffee	75c
Souchong	28@ 60	Sugar drips	65c
		Lower grades	45@50c
Choice Carol'a S	@33½c	*Starch.* ₱ lb.
Patna	7½@8 c	Pearl	5
Mahogroon	7½@8 c	Corn	9½c
		Corn	10½c
Spices.		*Raisins.*
Cloves	35 c	Layers, ₱ box	@3 25
Allspice	17½@18½c	Valentias, ₱ lb	12 c
Cassia	33 @35 c	Loose muscatels	12½c
Nutmegs	110@125	Prunes	10@12½c
Pepper	26 @27 c	*Soaps.*
Soaps.		Irish soap, ₱ box	$1 50
Star, full weight	18½c	Babbitt's best ₱ box	7 00
Star, inc	15 c	*Candles.* ₱ lb.
Soda.		German Mottled	7 c
B'c'arb, in 10-₱ kgs	6c	
B'c'arb, in ₱ papers	8c	

Teas—There is a steady and strong demand. Quotations are as follows:

Spun roll	60@63c
Black Natal	53@56c
Flack Tens	57@60c
Louisville Navy	62@68c
Valleyfield Gun	60@65c
Virginia Navy	58@63c
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No. 1 extra mess mackerel, ₱ bbl	Large do ₱ 100
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No. 2 bay	11 50
New No. 3	9 50
Scotch codfish, medium, ₱ 100	Round do. 25@3 75
Canned Salmon	2 00
Canned Trout	1 75

The market rules at a moderate but steady jobbing trade. Tomatoes, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $1 75@2 00; peaches, 3-lb cans, ₱ doz, $3 50; pie peaches, $2 75@3 00; pine apples, 2-lb cans, $2 55; string beans, 2-lb cans, $1 75; cherries, $2 50@3 00; pine apples, 3-lb cans, $4 50; cans, $1 75@2 00; strawberries, 2-lb cans, $1 25; raspberries, 2-lb cans, $2 00; asparagus, 2½-lb cans, $3 00; pineapples, 3-lb cans, do; pears, 2-lb cans, $2 25; pint pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; quart pickles, ₱ doz, $1 35; ½ gallon pickles, ₱ doz, $2 25.

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Provisions.

There is a somewhat easier feeling in the market for hog products here, but no alteration in values. Some dealers predict that the reduction in prices West will be only temporary, and indeed the last reports from Chicago show a firm and unchanged feeling. Sales here are moderate, being 3,750 pieces and 787 pieces during the past week.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 9½@10c ₱ lb; rib sides are quoted at 12@13½c; clear rib sides 13½c; clear sides 13¾@14c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar cured new at 16c ₱ lb; sugar cured shoulders at 10½@ 11c ₱ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 14c; dried beef 12½@13c; beef tongues, ₱ dozen $7 50.

MESS PORK—The market is steady and advanced. We quote at $20 00@20 50 ₱ bbl.

LARD—Is firm at quotations. We quote prime lard, in tierces, ₱ lb, 9c; half bbls do 9½c; in buckets, 17-lb, 10c; 3-lb pails, 10½c; in 5-lb caddies do, 10¾c; in 3-lb pails do, 10½c; in 5-lb do, 10¾c; in 6-lb do, 10c.

LARD OIL—We quote extra No. 1 winter strained at $1 12 ₱ gallon.

TALLOW—Sales at 8@8½c ₱ lb for choice, and 7½@7¾c for medium.

The Chicago *Tribune* makes the following comments upon the provision market of that city last Monday: "Hog products were moderately active, but quite weak. Live hogs were only in fair supply, and quoted stronger, but there was a general desire to sell product which here drawn all before it. This is, perhaps, not to be wondered at in pork, which is mostly kept up on margins deposited by speculative operators, many of whom live in the country, and are apt to be all on the same side, either in buying or selling. But there is a good deal of money under hard pressure, and both being held by capitalists who are not usually dismayed by a temporary turn in quotations. Add to this the fact that lard is in light stock, and that meats are low as compared with pork, and there is still less apparent reason for a decline in those articles. The only cause assigned to be, however, the fact that large quantities of country-cured meat were understood to be awaiting purchasers. The weakness in New York was only a consequence of our decline—not its cause. Contrary to the usual rule, there was scarcely an attempt to rally, the course of the market being downwards, almost steadily from soon after the opening to very near the close."

General Merchandise.

ALES—Trade continues dull and unsatisfactory, with prices depressed and weak. We quote: X $6 00 ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Bass' English ale, in kilderkins of 32 gallons, $25 00@25 00; barrels, 41 gallons, $16 00@41 00; hhds, 68 gallons, $26 50@55 00; in cases, 4 dozen bottles, $20 75. William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of 8 dozen bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale $2 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, $2 75@ 3 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Coobrane's ginger ale $2 75 ₱ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s gin

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The publishers of our ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE, in the East, having discontinued its publication, we shall be unable to furnish it to subscribers hereafter. We ask the indulgence of our patrons, in this matter, for the reason that the failure is wholly beyond our control.

THE imports at the port of New York for the past week were: Dry goods, $2,171,498; merchandise, $6,706,818; total, $8,878,316.

THE Philadelphia courts have just decided that coroners have the same power to compel the attendance of witnesses at inquests which they are required to hold, that other judicial officers possess.

REPORTS from some of the winter wheat sections of the West are to the effect that the excessive cold of the past season has killed it to such an extent that not more than half the usual crop will be grown.

THE Supreme Court of Massachusetts has just decided that a savings bank is not responsible to the depositor, after paying the money on presentation of the book, even though the same be presented by a thief.

THE Sacramento, California, Board of Education have just decided to admit Chinese children into the public schools, but it is not likely the parents of the latter will demand that the doctrines of CONFUCIUS shall be taught.

THE miners in the Lackawanna region, by a vote of 1,500 to 400, have decided against a strike. They were invited by the Schuylkill miners to join in their strike, and have thus emphatically declined. They have shown remarkable good sense in doing so.

THE Richmond *Whig* complains the Democrats of that State have no leaders. It used to furnish enough for the whole nation, but now it has none for itself. It has, instead, a lot of political bell-wedders, who go gingling through the brush, and the rest of the flock follow after, as a matter of course.

SENATOR GORDON, of Georgia, refuses to permit his name to be used as a Democratic candidate for the Vice Presidency. He says "it is *too early* to put an ex-rebel soldier on the national ticket." Northern Bourbons are to be used to pull Southern chestnuts out of the fire for a brief space longer—and then?

KANSAS appears to be the banner Republican State, thus far, this year. The election returns from all over the State are of the most encouraging nature. Lawrence, Topeka, Leavenworth, Atchison, Fort Scott, with innumerable smaller towns and cities, elected their Republican candidates by large majorities. Free Kansas has a right to feel proud of her work.

THE wool trade of Boston is increasing rapidly. The total imports of wool at that port for the first quarter of last year amounted to 2,187,958 pounds, valued at $384,324. During the corresponding period of the present year the imports amounted to 5,216,289 pounds, the value being $1,390,779, being an increase of 3,028,331 in pounds and $1,006,455 in value in one year's time.

CARDINAL MANNING expresses a belief that the Roman Catholic Church is "approaching a crisis, the most serious for three hundred years." The proposition points to the realization of DISRAELI's political prophecy of a great religious war in Europe. A combination of the Catholic nations of Europe against Germany does not, from present appearances, seem at all impossible.

THE total receipts of the five steamer lines between New York and Liverpool last year were $30,153,885, against $37,577,250 for 1873, a decrease of $27,423,365. In contrast with these figures the American line, sailing from Philadelphia, may be considered to have done remarkably well, its adverse balance being only $48,914. The present year promises to prove a remarkably prosperous one for them.

A FACT full of suggestive import is this in consequence of the almost universal industrial disorganization in Great Britain, the English manufacturers are becoming seriously alarmed for the future, and are beginning to consider whether, after all, a larger customs revenue, with incidental protection, and internal taxation, would not be a good thing for the country. What significance do our own free trade doctriniers discern in it?

Now, how is this? Last month 4,529 persons, irrespective of race, color, or previous condition, were fed at the New Orleans soup-house, of which number only one hundred and three were colored, while out of 4,078 who applied for lodgings at the same soup-house, only sixty-eight were colored. This element in the population of that city is about as one to three. It is clear that the bulk of the pauperism of that hot-bed of white Leaguism is not black.

THE Democratic papers of the State, generally, rush like war-horses to the defense of LANDESBERRY, now under arrest for the murder of Col. BUTLER, in Clearfield county, during the war. Col. BUTLER was only a Provost Marshal engaged in enforcing the draft for soldiers to sustain the Government in its war against the Rebels; and the sympathy of the Democracy with the Rebels was so great and so general that they naturally look upon the murder of a Provost Marshal as being rather praiseworthy than otherwise.

A BOSTON paper, we notice, puts the product of bituminous coal in this country at four millions of tons, and seems inclined to regard these as outside figures. Why, man, Ohio alone produced 3,820,000 tons last year, while Maryland produced over three millions and Pennsylvania over eleven millions. Taking the yield of the Southern and Southwestern States in with the yield of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Ohio, and the total will easily reach twenty millions of tons, an aggregate equal to that of anthracite coal.

THE extortionate charges made in New York for storage, elevation and wharfage, which for years have proved so serious an obstacle in the way of trading through that port, are to be made the subject of investigation, in connection with the inquiry into the canal frauds. The impetus given almost simultaneously to the business of Boston, Montreal, Philadelphia and Baltimore has been largely due to efforts to escape these exactions. Self interest should long ago have been a motive of sufficient power to lead the New York merchants to remedy these abuses.

THE latest reports from Germany state that among the lower Catholic clergy of that country, there is a steadily growing opposition to the fierce Vaticanism of the infallibilists, and that this liberalizing movement is creating not a little alarm among the ultramontane leaders. So, too, it appears that the Polish Catholics, whose secession *en masse* to the Greek Church is recently mentioned, have sent a memorandum to the Russian Government accounting for their intentions by the moral impossibilito of accepting the dogma of Infallibility. These various signs of incipient insubordination are interestingly suggestive.

THE *Iron Age* compares the market value of the five principal metals of commerce, other than iron, at the close of March, 1874, and the present year, as follows:

March 31.	1874.		1875.	
	Cur'ncy.	Gold.	Cur'ncy.	Gold.
Lake copper	23½c.	23½c.	21½c.	18½c.
Domestic lead	6½c.		5½c.	
Straits tin	25½c.	24½c.	24c.	21c.
Domestic spelter	6¼c.		6½c.	5½c.
Antimony	15½c.		13½c.	12½c.

From this comparison it will be seen that metals are unduly depressed. Any permanent improvement must of course, depend upon legitimate consumption, and as that still gives promise of a steady and sustained increase, the metal markets should soon feel the impulse.

THE Southern Democrats make very fine promises and professions in their addresses to the people of the North, but their talk for home consumption is of a widely different character. In Houston, Texas, there is a gifted young colored man who is achieving great success as a teacher and instructor of his race. Him, the Houston *Age* describes as "a filthy negro educated at Oberlin College, the hot-bed of all that is low, degraded, boastly, and despicable." Does any one doubt that this is a truthful indication of the real feelings of the majority of the Southern whites toward their colored fellow citizens and the institutions which are developing them into the worth and usefulness of intelligent character and citizenship?

ASSUMING STATE DEBTS.

When WM. COST JOHNSON, of Maryland, proposed in the national House of Representatives, about a generation ago, that the United States Government should assume the debts of the various States, the proposition received only his own vote and that of one other gentleman, who voted with him solely to keep him from feeling lonely. He made a strong speech in its favor; urged it with eloquence and force; presented it in the most seductive aspects to the eyes of Congress, and was patiently heard throughout; but when it came to voting upon it, he stood absolutely alone. He could not procure a call for the yeas and nays; and the vote being taken by tellers, he was about to pass angly between them when a friend, ashamed at seeing him stand alone, linked arms with him and together they marched between the tellers, the sole supporters of a measure which, even then, was gigantic enough to appal the assembled wisdom of the nation.

That proposition, however, was made at a time when the United States had no debt of its own, and had, besides, a surplus of forty millions in its Treasury which it did not know what to do with. The Government was consequently in a financial condition that would have justified the proposed assumption, so far as mere financial ability was concerned. It was not, then, the poverty of the nation that prompted the rejection of Mr. JOHNSON's bill, for it was abundantly able, at that time, to pay off all the State debts without seriously burdening itself. The rejection was based upon other and higher grounds. It was the inherent viciousness of the proposition that secured its almost unanimous condemnation.

That which has been, shall be again. The rejected legislative monstrosities of one generation come up for consideration in the next, the same as if they had never before been heard of. It is not therefore, surprising to hear that Mr. GILBERT C. WALKER, a Democratic member of the next Congress from Virginia, proposes to assume the dropt mantle of WM. COST JOHNSON, and to bring his discarded proposition before the next House, with some modifications. The scheme is to consolidate all the State debts into one grand national debt, and the States are to be recommended to assume the various county and city debts, so as to relieve the people in those places of their local burdens. The difference between the condition of the country, now, and its condition when COST JOHNSON aired his project, is that the United States has now a debt as large as she can bear, whereas then she had none. The monstrousness of the project remains the same. If it was too preposterous for lengthy consideration, then, it is equally so now, when the nation is staggering under a load of debt that will not bear an increase?

The proposition, it will be seen, comes from the South; and the following table of State debts will show *why* it comes from there. The North does not ask for it; and the South asks for it simply because she is not honest enough to meet her obligations:

DEBT OF THE NORTHERN STATES.

States.	Debt.	Electoral vote.
Connecticut	$5,499,000	6
California	4,812,500	6
Illinois	1,100,000	21
Indiana	4,328,000	15
Iowa	300,000	11
Kansas	1,200,000	5
Maine	3,231,700	7
Massachusetts	17,238,400	13
Michigan	1,341,356	11
Minnesota	250,000	5
Nebraska	247,300	3
New Jersey	4,690,000	9
New Hampshire	488,300	5
New York	25,387,700	34
Pennsylvania	1,126,210	29
Ohio	12,347,500	22
Oregon	105,000	3
Rhode Island	2,627,500	4
Pennsylvania	16,325,600	29
Vermont	331,000	5
Wisconsin	2,252,000	10
Total	$106,724,200	237

DEBT OF THE SOUTHERN STATES.

Alabama	$ 16,900,000	10
Arkansas	12,445,000	6
Delaware	1,462,000	3
Florida	1,200,000	4
Georgia	11,391,500	11
Louisiana	29,576,000	8
Maryland	15,313,000	8
Missouri	21,526,000	15
Mississippi	2,570,000	8
North Carolina	36,691,400	10
South Carolina	7,985,000	7
Tennessee	20,000,000	12
Texas	2,023,400	8
Virginia	44,000,000	11
West Virginia	No debt.	5
Kentucky	No debt.	12
Total	$214,705,500	138

This table speaks for itself. It is unnecessary to comment upon it; and we venture to predict that Mr. GILBERT C. WALKER will come as little speed with his project as WM. COST JOHNSON did with his

PEACE PROSPECTS IN EUROPE.

The uneasiness which is felt in Europe concerning the probabilities of war, does not spring from any immediate indications of probable strife, nor from any quarrel between prominent nations. The feeling between France and Germany is not, it is true, a cordial one, and years must elapse before the dislikes begotten of the late war are moderated or toned down. France keeps up her army to the fighting point, as does Germany, also; but that does not indicate a hostile purpose on the part of either toward the other. Public necessity compels both to keep their armies on the war footing; and it is not probable that either has the slightest desire or design to renew a conflict that was exhaustingand destructive to both. The cause lies deeper than that, and beyond it. There is no national quarrel pending; there is nothing on the surface to indicate where or how a war is to break out; yet every European Government, and all the thinking people in Europe, are uneasy and fearful of an outbreak that has, as yet, given no open signs of its coming.

This feeling of apprehension and fearfulness has not yet found decided expression in words; but it is easy to glean, from stray indications here and there, that the danger apprehended is a Religious War, or a war having its origin in religious questions. The aggressive attitude of the Pope, and of the Ultramontane party that sustains him, and the almost fierce persistence of Germany in its determination to make the Church subordinate to the State, must lead either to the submission of one to the other, or to a war that must certainly involve Austria, Italy, Germany, France and Belgium, and probably England and Russia.

It may be asked, who is to make war upon Germany, since it takes two to make a quarrel? The answer belongs to the future, but the purpose of the Ultramontanes will undoubtedly be to form a league of the Catholic governments that will be of sufficient strength to stand up against Germany. This, if formed, will probably include France, Belguim, Spain, Portugal, and possibly Austria, against Germany and Italy at first, involving eventually Holland and all the other Protestant countries of Europe. England and Russia could hardly keep out of such a fight, and it is almost certain, if it once breaks out, to involve the whole of Europe.

We do not wonder, therefore, at the prevalent uneasiness in Europe. It is not at all surprising that the fight thus dreaded will break out soon. The progress of events leading up to such results is always slow. But the drift is all in that direction. Already Germany is calling Belgium to account for taking part in its quarrel with the Pope. Belgium pleads innocence, of course, and institutes an inquiry to quiet the fears of her neighbor; but Belgium has, beyond doubt, meddled to some extent in the matter, and will be driven to meddle more, as will France, and Spain, and Portugal. Germany will resist the meddling, and call them to a strict account for it; but, in the end, things will drift inevitably toward an armed collision which, once begun, will spread from the center to the utmost circumference of Europe.

It is, of course, possible to steer clear of all these difficulties, and avoid a conflict which every one fears; but it is not probable that sufficient coolness of head will prevail, when the crisis arrives, to secure a peaceful settlement. The Pope and the Jesuits are arrogant, lofty and exacting; and these are qualities that beget strife, rather than hinder it.

EDUCATION AT THE SOUTH.

One of the judges in the State of Georgia, in commenting recently upon an act of the Legislature requiring some levy to be made in support of the few public schools in that region, took occasion to denounce all public support of common schools as wrong. It was perfectly proper, he said, that the public should be taxed to educate the indigent, who were unable to educate themselves, but there all obligation stopped. There was no good reason why he, a man of means and property, yet having no children to educate, should be taxed to educate the children of his neighbor, who was able to educate them out of his own means. Every man should bear the cost of educating his own children, unless he be a pauper. The obligation of the State begins only where individual ability ceases.

In reading this over in a Georgia paper it recalled to us the time when, forty years ago, just such arguments were heard in Pennsylvania. The establishment of the common school system in this State was resisted by precisely similar logic. THADEUS STEVENS, and Dr. WORTHINGTON, and the other worthy men who stood up in the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1835 to demand for her children the boon of education, were met by a perfect flood of just such talk as this Georgia judge, in this year of grace 1875, indulges in. The Constitution of 1790, which was superseded by the Constitution of 1838, was, in fact, established upon this Georgia basis, as a section in it required that the Legislature should "provide by law for the establishment of schools throughout the State in such manner that *the poor may be taught gratis.*" There is the Georgia doctrine, constitutionally expressed; with this difference, that the Pennsylvania declaration dates back to 1790, and it was abandoned in 1835, while it breaks out as an apparently original doctrine in Georgia in 1875. The South, forty years after we have abandoned them, takes up our cast-off clothes and puts them on.

It is somewhat astonishing, on first view, to find the South so far behind the times in so vital a matter as public education, and to hear it urging the exploded arguments of a past generation; but, when you come to look closely at Southern affairs, generally, it is not much to be wondered at. Slavery was a demoralizing institution in more senses than one. It left the South a generation behind in every thing. Her agriculture, her enterprise, her intellectual condition are all of the past, and she seems to have been shut out by slavery, as by a Chinese wall, from all the ameliorating effects of modern progress and civilization. The Georgia of 1875 is no more advanced than was the Pennsylvania of 1835; and hence, it is no more surprising to hear a Georgia judge to-day indulging in the arguments we have quoted than it was to hear the same ideas in the halls of Pennsylvania legislation at a time when we first began to break away from the fetters of the past.

It must not be expected that the South should be able to tear herself in a day from all the influences of a degrading past. Give her time. The mills of the gods grind slow, but they are very sure. Progress, like confidence, is a plant of slow growth. We, as Pennsylvanians, went through the same experience in the same way; and the fact that we were forty years ahead of Georgia shows only that we had the advantage of the start. We have had to travel the same road; and when we read such productions as that of the Georgia judge from whom we have quoted, we sympathize with him, for we know how it was ourselves.

NEW YORK RASCALITY.

There is a probability that Governor TILDEN having got all the benefit he can out of his war upon the corrupt Democratic Canal Ring of New York, the exposures made by him will not be very industriously followed up, and that there will be a much stronger effort made to cover over the revelations already made than to extend or amplify them. It will be prudent, therefore, to place upon file, the facts already made public; and for that purpose we quote the following from the New York *Times:*

By a reference to papers on file in the Auditor's office, it is found that the total amount of the contract price of the fifty-four most important contracts for excavating canal repairs, entered into between the years 1868 and 1873, was $1,217,627 40. The final accounts rendered by the contractors amounted to $2,754,220 01, the sum charged in excess of the original contract prices being $1,536,592 61. The following are the names of the contractors and the amounts of their original bids and final accounts:

	Amount original contract.	Final account rendered.
Henry S. Danalds	$ 3,200 50	$ 6,115 20
Lewis M. Lass	10,984 00	15,556 29
Morrissey & Birdseye	4,150 00	9,222 12
John Dunn	28,167 50	44,339 94
William Mudgett	53,145 00	57,884 65
George B. Case	8,990 00	29,316 74
George M. Case	13,961 00	17,754 15
Nehemiah L. Osburn	1,635 00	2,986 42
George D. Lord	2,373 00	4,053 20
A. Cadwell Belden	925 00	11,757 30
James M. Wiltsie	20,514 00	28,991 84
E. B. Van Dusen	1,937 40	8,836 29
George B. Sherrill	32,515 25	72,515 25
Lyman M. Newton	4,306 00	7,554 50
Willard Johnson	3,041 40	6,337 92
B. B. Van Dusen	5,550 00	9,972 28
M. W. Ostrander	10,725 50	35,498 47
E. B. Van Dusen	24,992 00	44,495 62
James T. Severance	5,704 00	12,596 40
J. M. Dygert	3,258 00	8,132 75
A. B. Belden	14,469 00	56,929 21
Thomas Gale	37,966 00	39,507 72
Cyrus & A. G. Rose	7,435 00	13,490 52
Cyrus & A. G. Rose	7,755 00	13,252 18
Joseph J. Belden	8,584 00	22,960 48
William Johnson	29,431 00	56,845 68
James B. Sherrill	22,292 50	32,278 84
A. Cadwell Belden	9,504 00	43,753 25
Charles A. Skinner	68,700 00	69,000 00
Henry G. Jackson	48,845 00	99,052 32
William Mudgett	35,137 00	61,382 91
George Densmore	21,996 00	31,695 20
E. B. Van Dusen	14,297 00	18,967 20
John F. Hasch	21,467 00	48,385 00
Edward B. Van Dusen	27,933 40	45,513 72
William Mudgett	26,259 00	46,093 00
Charles V. Skinner	23,274 00	103,103 72
Henry D. Dennison	9,249 00	146,916 01
N. Stanton Gere	27,270 00	51,283 00
Isaac A. Beeraw	31,210 00	86,000 00
N. L. Osburn	47,820 50	153,451 33
Charles Nichols	27,262 00	39,857 84
Amariah Holbrook	14,163 10	34,256 25
E. W. Williams	62,520 00	117,054 39
Edward W. Williams	41,120 00	88,913 10
George B. Sherill	8,427 00	32,505 15
George D. Lord	30,500 00	50,392 67
Henry G. Jackson	15,151 00	29,253 67
Emmet Flagler	4,015 10	49,442 98
E. B. Van Dusen	23,351 00	39,253 42
James J. Belden	13,570 00	29,323 42
H. G. Jackson	24,689 00	43,426 32
James F. Buck	12,084 00	43,491 75
Charles J. Degraw	8,084 00	16,385 77

From this it will be seen that the Democratic Canal Board awarded contracts to its pets, as the lowest bidders, to do a certain amount of work at a certain price, and then paid them more than double that amount when the work was done. In other words, a million and a half of the State's money was stolen within five years and distributed among Democratic contractors by a corrupt Canal Board. That shows the moral benefit, as well as economy of the Democratic rule.

THE entry of the Catholic Church of Ohio into the political arena is exciting the comments of the newspapers, The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser* says:

"It appears, then, that the Roman Catholic Church has captured the Democratic party in Ohio, just as it has captured the Democracy of New York, as we have previously shown. Only it seems that in Ohio like the domination of the Church the party is not so cunningly disguised as it has been here.

"How far will the people allow this humiliating conquest to extend? How long will it be before the intelligent Protestant and independent sentiment of the country will be aroused to the danger that threatens our free institutions in the shape of Ultramontanism with the Bourbon Democracy?"

Even the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, the Democratic organ, scolds the *Catholic Telegraph* for its out-spoken frankness in classing the Church and the Democratic party as one, and the Cincinnati *Commercial* declares that the Archbishop Purcell's organ "must have it that the Democratic party is a part of the machinery of the Church, the people have only to be convinced that the *Telegraph* is speaking by authority to make an end of the party."

We can see no reason why they should not be convinced of the fact. There has been no attempt made either to conceal it or deny it. The *Commercial* adds:

"We shall doubtless hear a good deal about 'secret leagues' and 'Know-Nothingism,' and all that. We understand that sort of hue and cry. The objections we raise are not to the Church as a denomination, but to the usurpation by the Catholic vote is wielded in behalf of a political party on the avowed ground that the party is to legislate for the Church. The objections would apply with equal force to a like alliance between any sect and party. Our political parties and legislation must be kept clear of these entangling alliances, and if there is any change it should be toward a more complete secularization of Church and State in all civil and political affairs. If any political party consents to occupy the position in which the Democratic party in Ohio is put by Mr. Geghan and the *Catholic Telegraph*, without remonstrance or protest, it is the first duty the people owe to themselves, and of the very highest importance as affecting their political liberties, to put it down and keep it under till it shall have a better understanding of the theory of secularized representative government."

The Baltimore *American*, referring to this political-religious alliance, says:

"The outcome of the alliance which is said to have been made in Ohio will be watched with great interest. If an ecclesiastical element is to enter decisively and as an organized power into American politics it is well that the fact should be known and understood. There is no necessity of any fear as to the result, for there are thousands of American Catholics who will revolt from any denomination when it orders them to violate their obligations as citizens of the Republic. No man who appreciates the fundamental principles of our institutions and how thoroughly national growth and prosperity are dependent upon them, will be willing to see one of them stricken down."

THE last number of the New York *Economist*, a journal of by no means sanguine temperament, after a long and elaborate review of the business outlook, concludes that trade is as active as is possible under the circumstances. The trade of the season in almost every branch of business is in excess, both as regards volume and proceeds, of the same period last year, and is nearly up to the full average of the profitable season of 1873. As an estimate of the future of business, it is calculated that since the beginning of the year a total of a million producers have been added to the great army of industry. In Troy, Albany, and other towns on the Hudson, some ten thousand iron workers and stove makers have gone to work. In all the manufacturing towns in New England and New Jersey, and the Eastern States generally, the army of industry has been recruited very nearly up to its original quota. The New England cotton and woolen operatives are now in full operation except in a few places where a strike has taken place, although in nearly all cases the operatives have gone to work at reduced wages. The approaching opening of river and canal navigation will also yield employment to hundreds of thousands of steamboatmen, river and deck hands, and others, thus making the general activity and prospect more complete. The *Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association* holds similar hopeful views, while with regard to the iron trade, that paper says:

"As the country gradually recovers its natural buoyancy; as it reaches out its arms in the direction of hundreds of minor enterprises which are really needed; as its need of iron to replace worn-out railroad tracks, cars, locomotives, bridges, etc., increases, just in the same proportion will the iron business experience a healthful invigoration. If general business improves, so undoubtedly will the iron business, and general business is improving. Thanks to the ten per cent. legislation of the last Congress, when the demand for iron increases the American iron master and not the foreigner will be called upon to supply that demand. We regard, also, as among the favorable omens for the future of the iron trade the fact that excessive production of iron—production out of all proportion to the wants of the country—has practically come to an end with the blowing out last fall and winter of nearly if not all of a hundred furnaces which were running a year ago."

QUITE an important impetus has been given to the Grange co-operation movement on the Pacific coast, by a favorable decision against Grangers' San Francisco agents, who transferred 15,453 sacks of wheat to a merchant vessel and then failed. Suit was brought to recover from the party who had received the agent's transfer, and the case has just been settled in the Supreme Court of the State, on a ruling "that a factor cannot pledge as security for his individual debt the goods of his principal consigned to him for sale, nor can the receiver set up his own title to defeat a pledge of the property made by the other, on the plea that the parties who received the property acted in good faith in the ordinary course of business and for value, more especially as the agent's receiver knew that the Graagers were the owners of the property; therefore he did not receive it in good faith within the meaning of the law." The verdict gave the Grangers $31,635 77, with interest, all in gold, from October 21, 1874. Other suits involving over $1,000,000 have since been settled. This has reassured the California farmers, and they are now taking advantage of State legislation by applying for charters for banks and a general business association to handle all the produce of the State, the board of directors being chosen one from each county. Should this organization prove successful, similar consolidations of agriculturists in other States, looking to co-operation on a large scale, will undoubtedly be made.

THE strange death of Professor F. W. WALKER, of Brooklyn, the other day, from an overdose of fluid extract of conium, the hemlock whereby SOCRATES died, is exciting great interest in medical circles. It is a drug very seldom used, and the account which the Professor dictated to his wife of his symptoms while under its influence, will be of marked benefit to science because so comparatively little is known of its workings. The resemblance between the manner of his death and that of SOCRATES and PHOCIAN, particularly the former, is rendered all the more striking from the fact that the great Greek drank the poison and spoke to disciples of immortality beyond, and that the dead electrician described the passing symptoms of his approaching end to his wife—the only known cases on record in which the victims conversed about themselves until death closed their lips. In this connection, the following passage relating to the death of SOCRATES, taken from MAHAFFY's "Social Life in Greece," is of interest:

"The condemned, on the day of execution, was freed from his chains and allowed to have his family and friends present in his cell, as they had already been during the nights of his imprisonment. When the hour of death approached the jailer came in, and left the cup of poison with the victim, giving him directions how to take it, and merely adding that it must be done by a certain hour. He then retired and left the prisoner in his last moments in the care of his friends. They sat about him as life gradually ebbed away, and closed his eyes in peace."

THERE has been a studied effort, on the part of the New York press, to make the disturbances in the mining regions of this State appear much worse than they really are. A letter from Harrisburg says:

"The newspaper reports about the parading of miners and other disturbances in the coal regions have not been confirmed by any trustworthy information in the hands of the authorities. No acts of violence have been reported to the Governor, nor has any call been made for troops since the issue of the Governor's proclamation on Saturday last, with the exception of a dispatch from Sheriff Kirkendall, of Luzerne county, on Sunday afternoon, to the effect that disorders in Luzerne county continued, and are at points so distant from each other that he was unable to keep the peace by means of the *posse comitatus*.

"Troops were at once placed at his disposal, which he has not found it necessary to use up to this time. No other information of any character whatever has been received by the Governor, and his inquiries fail to elicit any facts to show that any disturbances of an alarming nature exist.

General Siegfried telegraphs to-night that eveything is perfectly quiet in Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia counties; and General Osborne, in reply to a request from the Governor, assures him in regard to the Hazleton region, where there are some riotous manifestations about Jeddo and Eckley: 'I see no immediate reason for action.' These officers will be in command of the troops in their respective regions if their services are needed, and have been charged by the Governor to keep themselves constantly informed in regard to the situation therein."

PERSONAL.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, the great Confederate strategist, has been chosen to act as Chief Marshal at the North Carolina Centennial of Independence, on the 20th of May.

Choy Awah, of Washington, a Chinaman, claims the precedence of Mr. Yung Wing, of Hartford, in attaining United States citizenship, he having become a citizen last November.

A paper printed in New Hampshire reports that a girl who was severely injured (it does not say how) in Stafford county, that State, eleven months ago, has lived for the last three months exclusively on pea-nuts. At first she could eat nothing but pickles.

The very vexed question of the authorship of the Saxe Holm Stories has at last been settled. Saxe Holm is a lady, accomplished, unmarried, and on the sunny side of thirty years." Her name is Louisa Hale and Quaker-like—Ruth Ellis—and her home is in a small village in Central New York.

And now the Choctaw Nation in the Indian Territory has its clerical scandal. "Rev." Henry J. Williams, who had gained a great reputation for his efforts in behalf of Indian youth, married a fine young Kansas woman, turns out to be an ex-convict of the Kansas penitentiary, to have cheated lots of people and to have been a gay Lothario.

It turns out that Major Calhoun, for several years United States Pension Agent at Philadelphia, who gained his position on the strength of his supposed services in the Union army, was in fact a Confederate, placed in Libby prison as a spy, where his presence among the Union prisoners gave him the opportunity to pass himself off for one of them when the Confederate cause went down. He is now in Georgia, editing a rebel paper.

Henry Clapp, who was for many years well known among literary men in New York city, is dead. Beginning life as an apprentice on board a schoolship, he soon became tired of the monotony of sea life and entered into mercantile pursuits first in Boston and afterward in New Orleans. Later he traveled through the country as a temperance lecturer, in which character he also distinguished himself in England. He was an earnest advocate of abolition, expressing his views on the public platform and in the press. About twenty-five years ago he came to this city, and was engaged by Albert Brisbane to translate the works of Fourier. He also joined the *Saturday Press*, in which many of his brightest articles appeared. Subsequently he accepted a position on the staff of the *Leader*, and wrote occasionally for the periodical press. As "Figaro" he was known to a wide circle of readers. He began life as an idealist, an earnest reformer, a friend of humanity, but he degenerated into a perpetual tippler and his own worst foe. He had a great deal of wit, and never lost the art of epigrammatic speech. His Socratic face and shambling figure of late years flitted through the scenes he once made a part of, like a dimly remembered ghost.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A coke oven is being built for a Reading, Pa., pottery.

The rafting season has fairly opened on the Delaware.

A foundry and machine shop is in course of construction at Elizabeth, Pa.

The value of coal mined in Germany in 1872 amounted to about $100,000,000.

All the wool hat factories in Reading will suspend operations on the 17th inst.

Only four out of the thirteen blast furnaces in the Columbia, Pa., region are in blast.

A company has been organized in Cleveland, on a basis of $25,000 capital, for the manufacture of scales.

The cabinet manufacturing firms in Reading, Pa., make about $150,000 worth of household furniture annually.

The workshops of the Northern Central Railroad Company are to be removed from York, Pa., to Baltimore, Md.

It is stated that the car drivers' strike in New York city was instigated by idle men who hoped to step into the vacant places.

The Reading, Pa., *Times* says: A large deposit of iron ore has been discovered upon a tract of land in Albany township, at the foot of the Blue Mountain, belonging to the estate of George Merkle, deceased. A vein of excellent ore, six feet in thickness, has been uncovered, which it is supposed will be found to increase in thickness, upon further development. A number of laborers are engaged in opening the mine, and it is the intention of the owners to prosecute vigorous operations, if the present favorable indications are continued.

The Danville, Pa., *American* says: The difficulty or differences between the men and employers at the Pennsylvania Iron Works seems to have been amicably settled and we hear the gratifiying news that work will be resumed at an early day. The terms agreed upon grant to the men a regular scale of wages, based upon an average price paid at three other mills. This is just what the men asked, and it seems to be fair to both men and employers, and we are surprised that an earlier agreement was not effected.

The Greenville, Pa., *Argus* of the 3d inst. says: The striking coal miners down the valley manifest a determination to keep the "black sheep" out of the valley mines. Poor men who choose to obey the laws of necessity in preference to the laws of the Miners' Union are threatened with violence every day. During the first of the week there was a rumor to the effect that the valley miners would go over and compel the Pardoe miners to come out, but General Huidekoper, who is a director in the latter named mines, telegraphed for ammunition, and proposes to allow a company or two of the militia to try their hand down that way in case of mining troubles.

It seems that a number of wells will be put down in the Beaver Valley for natural gas. Messrs. Blake & Fessenden intend putting one down for the use of their file works. The owners of the paper mill, at Beaver Falls, intend putting one down also, and it is reported the coal company have leased the wells at Bennett's run, and convey the gas to Beaver Falls, where it will be furnished for fuel. We have understood that this company are by the condition of their lease, compelled to put down another well, with a view of obtaining oil. It has become a well settled opinion of many that the great Butler oil belt passes through that vicinity.—*Beaver, Pa., Democrat.*

The first wrought iron driving wheels ever manufactured in this country were made by Mr. James Mullen, 804 Penn street, this city. They were used on the engine "Stag" which belonged to the Roadway Department of the Reading Railroad Company. They were made in the year 1847, and at that time Mr. Mullen was foreman blacksmith of the Reading Railroad Company. They have been pretty much in use ever since. After the model then introduced the wheels have always been made, as far as we know, to say that there are no better driving wheels in the country. Mr. Mullen has long since retired from the position he then held, but he still retains a warm interest in mechanical affairs.—*Reading, Pa., Times.*

The Clearfield, Pa., *Republican* says: "Instead of sending seventeen hundred rafts, or about ten million feet of lumber to the lower market, as we did last year, only about eight hundred or eight hundred and fifty rafts, or probably five million feet will be sent into market this year. The quality will be severely felt by us in this county this year, and if the prices fall much below last year the depression will be awful. But there is no use of being discouraged. Let our farmers stand, and our people go to work and raise wheat, corn, potatoes, beef and pork of their own, which is no harder work than coal and timber, and they need not send what little money they have out of the county for that which they can produce themselves."

The Allentown, Pa., *Chronicle* of the 24 inst. says: The affairs of the Glen rolling mill have at last taken a decided shape, a United States Deputy Marshal having taken possession of the property yesterday. The Glen Rolling Mill Company was established about three years ago, with a capital of $150,000. Of this amount, twenty per cent. was subscribed immediately, but per cent. in eighteen months and the balance was to be paid from profits and dividends. The second assessment was never made, and the company struggled along until last December, when operations were suspended. The outstanding debts of the company foot up to a large sum, and it is said that none of their iron and coal was ever paid for. A meeting of the creditors is now in order, and will probably soon be held, and the stockholders called upon for the balance of the assessments.

A Harrisburg special to the Philadelphia *Press* says: Suspension in the anthracite mining regions has seriously affected the operations of every anthracite furnace in the Schuylkill region and the Lebanon Valley, as well as those located in other parts of the State east of the Alleghenies. The anthracite furnaces in this vicinity are making arrangements to introduce Cumberland coke from the West to make up for the short supply of anthracite, and it is feared that many furnaces will be compelled to "blow out" for want of coal—a result which would entail immense loss on the trade. If the strike lasts until the 1st of July, as it is predicted it will, four fifths of the anthracite furnaces of the State will be compelled to "blow out," as their supply of coal over the winter amounts only to sufficient to last them until canal navigation opens. Owing to the immense snows of last winter, comparatively small supplies of coal were taken by rail to furnaces, so that there is not a furnace in the State that will continue in blast after the first of June, if the strike in the coal regions continues, the effect of stopping so many furnaces would be most disastrous, and every effort will be made to avoid it. The introduction of Connellsville coke will be one of the means resorted to—and as this has already been tried with wonderful effect in smelting ore, the end may be the introduction of an article to compete with anthracite coal, which will force this region out of more than its share of interest to the tourist, and approached with many misgivings, as all passengers for St. Augustine were here transferred to stages in which there was always room for one more, the sides being more elastic than the springs.

Tocci, five miles beyond Picolati, is now the point at which St. Augustine passengers leave the river.

The railroad, formerly constructed with wooden rails, and equipped with horse cars drawn by mules, has recently been relaid with iron rails and a nobby little steam engine supersedes the mule power; it is reported that a new passenger coach will soon take the place of the two horse cars that now make up the train. Distance from here to St. Augustine fifteen miles, time from one to two hours, according to circumstances; fare two dollars, to which must be added fifty cents for omnibus fare, as the eastern terminus of the road is some distance from the ancient city, and the usual gratuities for handling baggage. Impreсations long and loud have been breathed against the management of this road, but we think with great injustice. We presume the stockholders made their investment with a view to profit, and so long as they furnish the public all the accommodations they agree to, at advertised prices, we see no grounds for complaint.

Pilatka, on the west bank of the river, one hundred miles from the ocean, and seventy-five miles above Jacksonville, has a population of nearly two thousand, and is the most important point on the river after leaving Jacksonville. It was well known as a military post during the Indian wars. It is at the head of navigation for ocean steamers, two of which make the round trip between here and Charlestown once a week; telegraphic wires connect with all parts of the United States, and the traveler feels that he is still within speaking distance of home. The hotel accommodations are not surpassed by any in the State. The streets are sandy but well shaded with live oak, cypress, magnolia and wild orange, the latter, to our mind, as delicately draped with Florida moss, and rich with golden fruit and fragrant flowers, the most ornamental of trees, and a sight one never can forget.

Crescent City, extending some five hundred feet along the river front, serves for a promenade, and it is an interesting study to note the crowds that come and go as the steamers land, and this point passengers for the Ocklawaha disembark. The famous orange groves of Col. Hart and Dr. Mongue have given a national reputation to Pilatka. The Doctor told us some marvellous stories of his success in the shipment of oran